

**A SHORT HISTORY OF NEWARK**



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A SHORT HISTORY  
OF NEWARK





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A SHORT HISTORY OF  
NEWARK

BY

FRANK J. URQUHART ✓  
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NEWARK, N. J.

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## PREFACE

This work first appeared in three small pamphlets, which, taken together, gave the history of the city from the beginning to the time of the publication of the third pamphlet. They were written at the request of the Free Public Library and published by it. In 1908 the three pamphlets were re-written and combined in one book, by the Baker Printing Company, the present publishers. This was adopted by the Board of Education as a supplementary reader, and is believed to be the first school history of a city published in America. The Public Library was largely responsible for the preparation of it, especially the librarian, Mr. John Cotton Dana.

The present edition is issued to meet the demand for a short history of the city during and after its two hundred and fiftieth anniversary. The text has been carefully recast, and much new material introduced, especially in the last chapter where the history has been brought down to date. This work represents the result of more or less constant study during a period of upwards of fifteen years. It gives only the more important events in the city's history, and while, it is hoped, satisfying the majority of readers,

*A SHORT HISTORY OF NEWARK.*

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serves as a guide to the few who may desire to go more exhaustively into the subject.

FRANK J. URGHART.

February 28, 1916.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF NEWARK.....	xvii-xxxvi
CHAPTER I. THE STORY OF ITS EARLY DAYS.....	1-68
1 A Roadless Wilderness.....	5
2 Earliest Settlements.....	6
3 Their Reasons for Settling in New Jersey.....	10
4 Like the Children of Israel.....	15
5 A Bargain in Land.....	15
6 Wealth of Settlers.....	20
7 The Four Texts.....	22
8 Newark the Last Theocracy of Puritans.....	23
9 The New Jersey Indians.....	25
10 The First Church a Fortress.....	26
11 The Church a Precious Thing.....	28
12 The Church as a Meeting House.....	30
13 Drums Were Very Useful.....	30
14 Filling in the Meadows.....	33
15 Newark Settlers' Thanksgiving Hymn.....	35
16 The Settlers Good Workmen.....	35
17 Newark Ten Years Old.....	38
18 The First Schoolmaster.....	39
19 Forming New Settlements.....	41
20 Roads Began as Foot-paths.....	41
21 The First Industry.....	43
22 Treat Returns to Connecticut.....	43
23 Treat in Battle.....	44
24 Treat as Governor.....	46
25 Settlers Were Able Men.....	47
26 Newark, Yale and Princeton.....	48
27 Military Park.....	52
28 Newark in 1774.....	53
29 In the War for Independence.....	55

*A SHORT HISTORY OF NEWARK.*

	PAGE
30 Washington in Newark.....	56
31 The Battle of Second River.....	59
32 British Outrages.....	64
33 The Fight at the "Four Corners".....	95
34 Camps and Hospitals.....	67
<b>CHAPTER II. THE STORY OF ITS AWAKENING: 69-97</b>	
35 Newark's Long Sleep.....	73
36 Newark the Village in 1800.....	73
37 The Old Tavern and Southern Trade.....	76
38 The Stage Coach.....	79
39 Broad Street in 1800.....	80
40 High Street and Westward in 1800.....	81
41 A Farm in Mulberry Street in 1815.....	82
42 Quiet Sunday in Old Newark.....	83
43 Newark Begins to Make Things.....	85
44 Making Boots and Shoes.....	86
45 An Early Free School.....	86
46 Newark a Village of Shoemakers.....	88
47 The Stone Quarries.....	89
48 Flour Mills and Saw Mills.....	90
49 Iron Foundries; Tool Making.....	90
50 Seth Boyden, Inventor.....	91
51 Boyden a Many-sided Gentleman.....	92
52 Coaches, Coach-laces, Saddlery.....	93
53 Hats, Jewelry, Beer.....	93
54 Power from Water and from Animals.....	94
55 Ships, Whaling, Canal.....	95
56 Townsfolk Men in Newark.....	95
57 Newark Awake.....	97
<b>CHAPTER III. THE STORY OF ITS PROSPERITY: 99-157</b>	
58 Newark Becomes a City; 1830.....	99
59 The First Railroad.....	105
60 The Young City Thrives.....	107

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
61 Hard Times of 1837.....	110
62 A Time of Prosperity.....	111
63 How They Fought Fires.....	111
64 The Old Hand Engines.....	112
65 The Great Fire of 1836.....	113
66 The First Steam Fire Engines.....	114
67 One of the Old Schools.....	114
68 More Schools.....	115
69 The Board of Education.....	116
70 Overcoming an Old Idea.....	116
71 When the Passaic Was Beautiful.....	117
72 Cockloft Hall.....	118
73 On the Eve of Civil War.....	121
74 A Great Public Meeting.....	124
75 Newark's Southern Trade.....	126
76 Going to the Front.....	127
77 Camp Frelinghuysen.....	128
78 War's Serious Side.....	129
79 General Kearny.....	130
80 The First Horse Car Line.....	132
81 Newark's Drinking Water.....	133
82 Old Wells and Reservoirs.....	133
83 The Present Supply of Water.....	134
84 Street Lighting.....	135
85 The First Gas Light.....	136
86 Edison in Newark.....	137
87 Edward Weston.....	138
88 Making Electric Lighting Possible.....	138
89 Industrial Expositions.....	140
90 Transportation.....	143
91 Port Newark Terminal.....	145
92 Educational Advancement.....	146
93 Approach of the "City Beautiful".....	148
94 Mayors Since Civil War Times.....	149
95 A Cosmopolitan Population.....	151

A SHORT HISTORY OF NEWARK.

---

	PAGE
96 Mayor Haynes and the Water Supply . . . . .	152
97 The Spanish-American War . . . . .	153
98 Band Concerts; Playgrounds; Meadow Reclamation . . . . .	154
99 1916 Celebration Preparations . . . . .	155
100 Newark, Mother of Towns . . . . .	156
HISTORIC SPOTS IN NEWARK . . . . .	159-171
INDEX . . . . .	173



## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

	PAGE
Statue of Puritan in Fairmount Cemetery.....	2
Henry Hudson Exploring Newark Bay, 1609....	4
Map showing principal settlements from Maine to the Delaware at the time of Newark's settle- ment, 1666 .....	7
Treat and Companions selecting the town site....	14
Early map showing distribution of Home Lots..	18
Going to church in the infant settlement.....	27
A "Burning Day" in the settlement.....	31
Portrait of Aaron Burr.....	49
Gathering of Patriots at County Court House, 1774 .....	54
Portrait of Alexander Macwhorter.....	57
Trinity Church as a Soldiers' Hospital.....	60
The Martyrdom of Justice Joseph Hedden.....	63
A Skirmish at the "Four Corners," with a mod- ern background.....	66
Seth Boyden, 1788-1870. From a bust in the Public Library.....	70
Market Street, east, from Mulberry, 1800.....	74
In Stage Coach Days, at Market and Broad Streets	78
Broad Street, south from Market, about 1825..	84
Newark from the Passaic by Night—an impres- sion .....	100
Newark's first mayor, William Halsey.....	102
"Lower Green" or "Military Common," now known as Military Park.....	119
Northwest corner of Market and Broad Street, in Civil War Times.....	125



CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY  
OF NEWARK



## CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF NEWARK

✓ 1666—Newark was settled.

1667—It was agreed by all planters and inhabitants that they should be ruled and governed by such magistrates as they should annually choose among themselves.

1668—The first church, called "Meeting house" by the settlers, was built. It was 26 feet wide, 36 feet long, and fronted on Broad Street, a little south of Branford place. In 1708 a second church was erected, which stood a little further north. The present building, which stands on the other side of Broad Street, was begun in 1787, and opened for public worship on the first of January, 1791. On its completion, the old second church was converted into a court house, for which purpose it was used until 1807.

1668—First General Assembly was held in Elizabethtown, delegates from Newark being Robert Treat and Samuel Swaine.

1668, May 20th—Commissioners of the Town of Newark and Elizabethtown met at "Divident Hill," to fix the boundaries between the settlements.

1668—The first grist mill was built and stood on the north side of First River or Millbrook, near the junction of Clay and High Streets.

1669 to 1672—Two courts were held annually, verdict being by jury of six men.

1670—Newark's first hotel. Located in the home of Thomas Johnson, on the northeast corner of Broad and Walnut streets, on the site of the present Grace Episcopal Church. It was called an "ordinary."

1672 to 1675—Four courts were annually held. In the latter year, the whole province was placed under county and other courts, and the rules of the sole town terminated.

1673—Newark's population included 86 men.

1673, September 6—It was ordered, "in consideration of the present dangers"—unrest of the Indians—that every man in town, under sixty and over sixteen, should meet together with their arms.

1673—New York surrendered to the Dutch, and the subjugation of New Jersey followed.

A transfer of allegiance to the Republic of Holland was demanded of the people of Newark, and it appears that seventy-three took the oath, eleven being absent.

1674—By Treaty of Westminster, New Jersey was restored to England, and Philip Carteret returned as Governor.

1675—Trouble feared with the Indians. It proved groundless.

1675—The church was fitted up for a defense, the men of the town working in turn; two flankers were placed at the corners and the wall between the lath and outside filled with stones.

1676—The first school was established. John Catlin was appointed schoolmaster.

1676—Newark's first Shade Tree Commission. Extract from the town minute book: "February 6. The Town, seeing some trees spoiled by barking or otherwise the Town had agreed that no green tree within the town as is marked With N. shall be barked or felled, or otherwise killed under the Penalty of Ten Shillings so killed."

1679—A watch was ordered to be kept at the night and one

*CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF NEWARK.*

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fourth part of the town should take turns carrying arms to church. This was during the time when Sir Edmund Andros, Governor of New York, asserted authority over New Jersey on behalf of the Duke of York. The people of Newark, in common with other settlements, resented Andros' interference.

1679, March 29—The town having met together, gave their positive answer to the Governor of New York, that they had taken the oath of allegiance to the King, and fidelity to the present Government, and until they had sufficient order from his Majesty, would stand the same.

1682—Newark had a population of about 500, having 10,000 acres of town lands and 40,000 acres of outlying plantations.

1683—The first poor person necessary to provide for.

1695—The first saw mill was commenced.

1696, December 10th—By virtue of a patent granted by the Lords Proprietors of East New Jersey, the public lands and streets had been vested in John Curtiss, John Treat, Theophilus Pierson and Robert Young. In 1804, by act of Legislature, this trust estate was declared to be invested in the inhabitants of the township. The property consisted of the old burying ground, Washington Park, Military Park, the watering place and the public streets as then laid out.

1698—First tan yard established by Azariah Crane.

1708—Second church building erected.

1714—First school house provided this year or a little earlier.

1719—The assessment of a town rate for the support of the poor commenced.

1721—Free stone was quarried for market.

1736—Cider making well established.

1745-46—Two great riots—jail broken open by mobs, and

persons held by land suits in favor of the English proprietors, set at liberty.

1746—Trinity Church was completed.

1747—College of N. J., afterwards Princeton College, started at Elizabethtown, removed to Newark in 1748—college remained in Newark about eight years, with Rev. Aaron Burr, as president.

1750, February 6—Aaron Burr, afterward vice president of the United States, was born in Newark, just before his father moved to Princeton.

1761—First lodge of Free Masons in New Jersey—St John's, established.

1765—An Act of Assembly was passed authorizing the construction of a road and ferries over the Passaic and Hackensack to connect with the road previously existing from Bergen Point to Paulus Hook. This was the only direct road to New York, by land, for many years. The present plank road follows, very nearly, the route then constructed.

1774—The first Newark Academy founded.

1776, November—Washington was stationed in Newark with an army of 3,000 men, for five days.

1780—The population of Newark was about 1,000. One hundred and forty one dwelling houses, thirty-eight in limits of what was afterward known as North Ward, fifty in the South Ward, twenty-eight in East Ward, and twenty-five in West Ward.

1780—Battle of Springfield. At that time, part of Springfield belonged to the City of Newark.

1780—The Academy referred to above, which stood in



## CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF NEWARK.

Washington Park, was burned by the English troops. Martyrdom of Justice Joseph Hedden.

1788—First Fourth of July celebration in Newark of which there is record. Parade was industrial rather than military, the following trades being represented: Tanners and curriers, stone cutters, masons, scythe-makers, blacksmiths, coach-makers, wheelwrights, silversmiths, saddle and harness makers, weavers, dyers and fullers, ship carpenters.

1790—Newark's first industry established about this time—shoemaking.

1791—Present First Presbyterian Church completed.

1791—Newark's first newspaper, *Wood's Gazette*, started May 13.

1791—First hanging of record. William Jones, for the murder of Samuel Shotwell. Services held in First Church just before the execution, with sermon preached by the pastor.

1792—In this year, or a little later, first free schools in Newark and probably in the United States, opened by Moses N. Combs, Newark's pioneer manufacturer.

1792—First bridges over Passaic and Hackensack Rivers completed.

1792—The second Newark Academy established.

1796—*Sentinel of Freedom* established. It denounced slavery, New Jersey being a slave State.

1797—At a meeting held in Newark, in May, the directors of the Society for the Promotion of Useful Arts, attended by Alexander Hamilton, it was decided to locate the town of Paterson (named after the then Governor of the State), on the banks of the Passaic. They appointed two of their number to fix the precise spot.

1797—Newark's first band of music, "Composed of our own citizens," took part in the Fourth of July celebration.

1798—Citizens, through the First Church, contributed \$455 and 160 pairs of shoes, in aid of the yellow fever sufferers of New York City.

1798—President Adams, the first of the name, passed through Newark three times, usually making short stops.

1800—Newark spoken of in newspapers as "the most flourishing town in the State."

1800 or thereabouts—Under a special law, to ascertain the exact, original boundaries of the principal and most ancient streets of Newark, every encroachment beyond private property lines, was moved back. Broad street was thus restored to its original width, 132 feet, except at Military Park; Market street to 88 and Washington street to 60 feet.

1800—The first company to supply Newark with water was chartered. The principal supply of water came from springs and wells located in what is now the Eighth, Eleventh and Fifteenth Wards. There were in all seventy-three wells and springs. Water was collected in small reservoirs about 150 feet south from the line of what is now Seventh avenue.

1801—At a mass meeting of citizens rules were drawn up to prevent unlawful residence of free negroes or such as falsely declared themselves to be free. To prevent negro slaves from meeting together in an unlawful manner. To prevent the unlawful absence of Newark slaves from their owners after ten o'clock at night.

1801—Committee on Sabbath observance announces that after March 10, it will stop all gaming, horse racing and other

*CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF NEWARK.*

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forms of Sabbath breaking such as unnecessary travel by stages, or in any other way.

1801—First Baptist Church established.

1801—Jewelry was manufactured by "Epaphras Hinsdale."

1803—Female Charitable Aid Society organized.

1804—Newark Banking and Insurance Company established first bank in Newark.

1804, February—By Act of the Legislature, all children of slave parents, born after the 4th of July, of that year, were declared free, but those who were born previous to that date, were still in bondage, and, accordingly, there were sixteen male and fifteen female slaves for life. The town plot contained 844 houses, 207 mechanics' shops, five public buildings, three lumber yards, four quarries. There were eight churches, nine clergymen, ten physicians, eighty-one farmers, fourteen lawyers, sixteen school teachers, thirty-four merchants and five druggists.

1806—Newark was noted for its cider, its quarries, manufacturing of carriages, coaches, lace and shoes. One-third of the inhabitants, it is said, were constantly employed in the manufacturing of shoes alone.

1806—First Methodist Episcopal Church established.

1807—At a mass meeting to protest against British outrages on American commerce, a committee was appointed to draw up suitable resolutions of protest. A copy of this document was sent to President Thomas Jefferson.

1807—Rev. Dr. Alexander McWhorter, Newark's sturdy old Revolutionary pastor, died; July 20.

1808—Second Presbyterian Church established.

1810—Hattng trade established by William Rankin.

*CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF NEWARK.*

1810—Population, probably of county, given as 8,008.

1811—County Court House built on present site of Grace Episcopal Church.

1811—Newark Fire Insurance Company incorporated.

1812—Essex Brigade of militia ordered to detail, arm and equip 441 men and officers, as Essex's quota of the 5,000 called for from the State; March 17.

1812—During the war, a draft of every seventh man was made of the people of Newark. A volunteer company of riflemen was also formed, of which Theodore Frelinghuyten took command, and when New York was supposed to be in danger, nearly one thousand men from Newark gave active aid in throwing up entrenchments on Brooklyn Heights.

1815—Under the provisions of an Act to authorize the inhabitants of the Township of Newark to build or purchase a poor house, the farm of Aaron Johnson was purchased, and in 1818 five acres of land adjoining were added to this farm. This property was known as the "Poor House Farm."

1819 to 1833—Joint meetings were held in the session house of the First Presbyterian Church.

1819—Seth Boyden makes first patent leather ever manufactured in this country.

1820—Population was 6,507.

1821—The total amount realized from taxes for the year, including dog tax, was \$3,184.

1843—By Act of the Legislature the following property was vested in the township: Orange Park, Lombardy Park, portions of Lincoln Park and parts of Washington, Market and Mulberry streets.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF NEWARK.

1824—First Roman Catholic Church, St. John's, established.

1826—There were still living in Newark 161 inhabitants who were alive during the War of Independence, fifty-six of whom were engaged in that war.

1826—Population of Newark was 8,017; of these 7,237 were within and 780 outside of the township; there were 491 colored people.

1826, July 4—The people of Newark held a jubilee, to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

1826, July 4—Seth Boyden discovered process of making malleable iron.

1830—A much traveled man says of Newark, that after visiting many of the cities and towns of the United States, he does not believe there is any community in the Union where so many inhabitants are to be found in the same number of houses. "The people are remarkably industrious," he declares; "we find them hammering away at their trades from five o'clock in the morning until ten or twelve at night."

1832—Whaling Company incorporated.

1832—Newark *Daily Advertiser*, now *Star-Eagle*, established.

1833—First bath house in Newark of which there is any record, in the New Jersey Museum, Market Street.

1833—There were 1,542 dwelling houses in Newark, as against 141 in 1777.

1833—A visitor from Schenectady, N. Y., who had been in Newark ten years before, writes that he "found things wonderfully altered; entire new streets laid out, crowded with tenements; elegant ranges of buildings put up several stories

*CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF NEWARK*

in height, and its strong arm of industry visible on whichever side the visitor turns his eyes."

1833—President Andrew Jackson visits Newark accompanied by Vice-President Van Buren, afterwards president. On June 14th.

1834—New Jersey Railroad opened.

1834—Newark was made a port of entry.

1834—First Dutch Reformed Church established.

1834—First attempt to number the buildings in their respective streets. A private enterprise, conducted by Jonathan Reynolds, of Halsey street. House owners to pay for it, at a rate of about ten cents a number.

1835—Estimated population:

Free white Americans	10,542
Irish population (about)	6,000
English and Scotch	1,000
German (about)	300
Free people of color	350

Total 18,200

1835—Morris and Essex Railroad opened.

1835—Exports to southern ports of the U. S., South America and West Indies over \$8,000,000.

1835—There were twelve hotels in Newark.

1835—There were eighteen churches in Newark.

1835—Whaling vessel from Newark returned after voyage of twenty-seven months with a cargo of 3,000 barrels of whale oil and 15,000 pounds of whalebone.

1835—Newark Medical Association organized.

1836—Newark incorporated as a city.

*CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF NEWARK.*

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1836—Population was 19,732.

1836—Common Council engaged room in Newark Academy; meetings were afterwards held at the Academy, Park House and Market House. Subsequently, church at 16 Clinton street, was engaged for one year, for the use of the city authorities for four days a week.

1836—Streets of Newark were lighted with oil lamps.

1836—Number of slaves in Newark, twenty.

1836—A school system for poor children established.

1836—City was divided into four wards, known as the North, South, East and West Wards, four aldermen representing a Ward.

1836, August 24—Corner stone of the Court House and City Hall laid.

1837—Fire Department:

Fire Engine No. 1—First Presbyterian Church.

“ “ No. 2—Trinity Church.

“ “ No. 3—Hill Street.

“ “ No. 4—Lombardy Park.

“ “ No. 5—106 Market Street.

“ “ No. 6—Railroad Depot, Market Street.

“ “ No. 7—Hedenberg's Factory, in Plane Street.

Hook & Ladder No. 1—108 Market Street (Museum).

Hose Company No. 1—106 Market Street (Museum).

1837—First German Presbyterian Church established, 42 Bank street.

1837—Common Council met in Council Chamber, Museum Building.

1837—Morris Canal opened.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF NEWARK.

1838—First High School established in Newark.	
1838—Court House and City Hall dedicated.	
1840—Still three slaves in Newark.	
1843—First public school house erected.	
1844—Mt. Pleasant Cemetery incorporated.	
1845—N. J. Historical Society incorporated.	
1845—Registered and enrolled tonnage, shipping	9,458 tons
Steamboats and boats under 20 tons	7,130 tons
<hr/>	
Total	16,507 tons

1845—New Almshouse erected and about twenty acres of the farm on the west side of the Elizabeth Road were sold.

1845—Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company organized.

1845—Mayor and Common Council entered into a contract with the Aqueduct Company for furnishing a full and sufficient supply of water for extinguishing fires, for washing, working, cleaning and trying the fire engines, hose and other apparatus used—to be used for the extinguishing of fires only. This was the first water contract the city entered into.

1846—American Insurance Co., incorporated.

1846, December 25—Newark Gas Light Co., commenced the manufacture of gas, and the city streets were lighted with it.

1847—Newark Library Association chartered.

1848—Protestant Foster Home established.

1848—A Fifth Ward was created and the aldermen divided into two classes—two to be elected annually in each ward for a period of two years.

1848 to 1853—Common Council used hall located on third story of Library Building, Market street.



*CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF NEWARK.*

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1848—First Jewish Synagogue, Congregation B'Nai Jesurun, established.

1848-1849—Influx of German political fugitives following the collapse of the Revolution of the Grand Duchy of Baden.

1849—The Newark Plank Road and Ferry Company incorporated.

1849—Newark Orphan Asylum incorporated.

1849-1850—Cholera in Newark—148 deaths.

1851—Present school system established under a law authorizing the organization of a Board of Education.

1851—Sixth and Seventh Wards created, the aldermen being divided into two classes and thereafter one had to be elected annually.

1852—Two aldermen representing a ward.

1853-54—Market building over canal erected—second story of said building was used for Council Chamber, committee rooms, fire alarm bell, and east end of department for police station and city prison.

1853—Eighth Ward was created.

1853—Newark Clinton Plank Road Co., incorporated—Plank Road construction extending from Newark to Irvington.

1853—St. Mary's Orphan Asylum incorporated.

1854—Newark Catholic Institute incorporated.

1854—Ninth Ward created.

1855—Fairmount Cemetery incorporated.

1855—First of present system of evening schools established.

1855—Woodland Cemetery incorporated.

1855—Firemen's Insurance Company incorporated.

1855—Green Street German American School incorporated.

1856—Tenth and Eleventh Wards created.

1857—Newark granted a new charter.

1857—*N. J. Free Zeitung* established.

1857—Exempt Firemen's Association organized.

1858-1859—Notice of fire was given from the tower, by waving a red flag in the day time, and a red light at night.

1859—First horse street railway company incorporated.

1859, September 14—Arion Singing Society organized.

1863, March 20—Newark Aqueduct Board created by an Act of Legislature. This Act authorized the Mayor and Common Council to purchase the property of the Newark Aqueduct Company including all their rights, franchises, lands and property, real and personal, for the sum of \$150,000—conveyance of the real estate consisted of sixteen tracts, including the Branch Brook, Spring lots and Mill properties along the Mill brook, several smaller tracts and the reservoir lot at Springfield and South Orange avenues.

1864-1865—During the Civil war, Newark put only ten thousands of men to the front, but was one of the main workshops of the North, turning out arms, clothing, etc., for the use of the soldiers engaged in the war.

1865—Number of buildings supplied with city water was (230-1,37) were dwellings, and 265 for purposes other than domestic.

1865—Twelfth Ward created.

1861, February 21—Abraham Lincoln in Newark.

1863—Thirteenth Ward created.

1861—Hebrew Aid Society organized.

1861—On May 23d, First Brigade leaves for Washington.

1861—Steam fire engine introduced into Newark.

1864—St. Peter's Orphan Asylum founded.

*CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF NEWARK.*

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- 1864, September 24—City Hall, corner Broad and William streets, opened.
- 1865—Y. M. C. A. organized.
- 1865 to 1870—Part of the city water supply was furnished by the Morris Canal Co.
- 1866—There was held a Bi-Centennial Celebration of the settlement of Newark.
- 1866—G. A. R. Post No. 1, Dep't N. J., organized.
- 1866, July 4—N. J. Home Disabled Soldiers, Seventh avenue, opened.
- 1867—St. Barnabas' Hospital incorporated.
- 1867—St. Michael's Hospital chartered.
- 1868, May 10—Boys' Lodging House and Children's Aid Society organized.
- 1868, January 15—N. J. State Association Baseball Players organized.
- 1868, March 17—Newark Board of Trade founded.
- 1868—German Hospital incorporated.
- 1869—Newark Water Works at Belleville completed.
- 1869—St. Vincent's Academy founded.
- 1870—Newark City Home established.
- 1870—City Dispensary moved from basement in City Hall, William street, to Centre Market.
- 1871—Fourteenth and Fifteenth Wards created.
- 1871, September—Women's Christian Association organized
- 1872—*Sunday Call* established.
- 1872, April 18—Home for the Friendless organized.
- 1872—Newark Industrial Exhibition.
- 1872, August—Essex County Hospital, 63 Camden street, organized.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF NEWARK

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- 1873—Seth Boyden Statue Association organized  
1873—Prudential Insurance Company organized.  
1874—Newark Homeopathic Medical Union organized.  
1879, July—Salvage Corps organized.  
1880—Eye and Ear Infirmary incorporated.  
1881, December 28—Unveiling monument of Phil Kearny.  
Generals Grant, Sherman and McClellan present  
1882—First public arc lamps introduced.  
1882—Free drawing school established.  
1882—Newark City Hospital, 116 Fairmount avenue, opened  
1882, March 25—St. Benedict's College chartered.  
1883—Newark *Evening News* established.  
1885—Newark Technical School established.  
1885—County Park System established  
1886—Old burying ground given over for public purposes,  
and bones of settlers removed to Fairmount Cemetery, in  
this and years immediately following  
1887—Hebrew Orphan Asylum opened at 232 Mulberry  
street.  
1887, March—Newark District Telegraph Co., organized  
1888—Free Public Library incorporated  
1889—Dedication of Newark Aqueduct property at Branch  
Brook for public park.  
1889—Gottfried Krueger Home for Aged Men organized.  
1891, May 14—Unveiling monument of Seth Boyden.  
1890—Present water plant purchased by the city.  
1892—First of new Prudential buildings erected.  
1893—Number of wards reduced to nine  
1894—First electric street cars on Broad street.  
1895—Number of wards increased to fifteen.

*CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF NEWARK.*

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1896—Movement of purification of Passaic River started by Newark Board of Trade.

1898, May 2—First Regiment New Jersey Volunteers for Spanish-American War left Newark for Sea Girt; returned home September 26.

1900—St. James' Hospital incorporated.

1901—New City Hospital completed.

1904—Shade Tree Commission established.

1906—Establishment Municipal Bureau of Statistical Information.

1906, November—First automobile fire engine introduced in Newark.

1906, December 20—Opening of the new City Hall.

1906—Number of wards increased to sixteen.

1907—New Court House completed.

1907—First city playgrounds.

1907—Small Board of Education established.

1907—Smoke Abatement Department established.

1908—Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company's new building completed.

1908—Municipal Lighting Plant established in new City Hall.

1908—Civil Service adopted—method of adoption declared unconstitutional.

1909—Newark Museum Association incorporated.

1909—Municipal Employment Bureau established.

1909—First automobile ambulance introduced.

1910—Civil Service adopted by the City of Newark—by a vote of the people.

1910—First municipal dental clinics established.

1910, November 26—High street factory fire, causing a loss of twenty-seven lives.

1910—Firemen's Insurance Company's new building completed.

1911, May 30—Unveiling by ex-President Roosevelt under auspices of Lincoln Post, No. 13, G. A. R., of Lincoln Monument at Court House Plaza, bequeathed to the City of Newark by Amos H. Van Horn.

1911—First City Plan Commission appointed.

1911, November 26—Opening of Manhattan and Hudson Terminal Electric High Speed Line, Park Place and Centre street.

1912, October 30—Opening of 6th Precinct Police Station.

1912—Civil Service adopted by School District of Newark by a vote of the people.

1914, November 2—Unveiling of Washington Monument, Washington Park, bequeathed to the City by Amos H. Van Horn.

1913—Erection new Board of Health Building, William street.

1913—Erection of new Almshouse, South Orange.

1913—Erection Nurses' Home, City Hospital.

1914, August—Sub-committees of the Committee of One Hundred selected.

TOWNSHIPS CREATED BY LAW OUT OF THE  
TERRITORY INCLUDED IN THE ORIGINAL  
SETTLEMENT OF NEWARK.

1763—Springfield Township created. Set off from Elizabethtown and Newark and including the territory now com-

*CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF NEWARK.*

posing the Townships of Springfield and New Providence, in Union County, Millburn and a part of the Township of Livingston, in Essex County.

1798—Caldwell Township created. Set off from Newark and Acquackanock and including the territory now composing the Township of Caldwell and a part of the Township of Livingston.

1806—Orange Township created. Set off from Newark and including the territory now composing the City of Orange and a part of what was formerly the Township of Clinton.

1812—Bloomfield Township created. Set off from Newark and including the territory now composing the Townships of Belleville and Bloomfield.

1813—Livingston Township created. Set off from Springfield and Caldwell.

1834—Clinton Township created. Set off from Newark, Orange, Elizabeth and Union.

1838—Supplement to aforesaid Act. Part of Clinton reannexed to Orange.

1839—Belleville Township created. Set off from Bloomfield.

1852—Boundary line altered between Newark and Clinton.

1857—Millburn Township created. Set off from Springfield.

1861—South Orange Township created. Set off from Clinton and Orange.

1862—Fairmount Township created. Set off from Orange, Caldwell and Livingston.

1863—Part of Millburn set off to South Orange.

1863—Supplement altering lines and changing name of Fairmount to West Orange.

1863—East Orange Township created. Set off from Orange.

- 1869—Monclair Township created. Set off from Blount  
field.  
1869—Boundary line altered between Newark and Clinton.  
1871—Woodside divided between Belleville and Newark.  
1874—Franklin Township created.

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ANNEXATIONS

- 1869—Portion of Clinton Township annexed to 3d, 6th and  
13th Wards.  
1871—Annexation of Woodside.  
1897—Annexation western part of Clinton Township.  
1902—Annexation eastern part of Clinton Township.  
1905—Annexation of Vailsburg.



THE STORY OF ITS  
EARLY DAYS



STATUE OF WYREAN  
IN BAJMOUNT EXHIBITION.

## CHAPTER I.

### THE STORY OF ITS EARLY DAYS

The people who founded Newark, New Jersey, in May, 1666, came from four different towns in Connecticut. They were of English parentage and most of them English born. Their leader so far as material and earthly things were concerned was Robert Treat. Their spiritual leader, the pastor of the flock, was the Rev. Abraham Pierson. Treat first came to Elizabethtown late in 1665, or very early in 1666, a few months after it was founded. There he saw Governor Carteret, who had come from England to take charge of all the upper half of New Jersey. The Governor was anxious to get settlers.

Except for a few small settlements on the Jersey shores of the Delaware and Hudson rivers, what we now know as New Jersey was then a wilderness, inhabited only by a few hundred Indians and by wild animals and birds. On the Delaware the towns were little more than forts, for the white people sometimes fought each other there, and fierce and warlike Indians lived a short distance away in what is now known as Pennsylvania.



### 1. A Roadless Wilderness.

From the Hudson to the Delaware there were no roads for white men; nothing except narrow Indian paths from the hills to the big rivers and the salt water, and the trails of deer, bear and wolves leading to the springs where animals came to drink. Some of the Indian paths were well worn and quite easy to follow. They ran from the seashore or from the Hudson, Passaic or Raritan rivers over the Orange mountains and there joined other paths that led on across the country to points high up on the Delaware. The Indians had use for these paths because many lived near the upper Delaware in winter and in the summer camped by the sea. When Newark's first settlers came they found huge piles of oyster, clam and other shells along the bay shore, which showed very plainly that one of the reasons why Indians traveled so far across the country was to get shell fish to eat after living all winter chiefly on game and Indian corn. There were also several Indian paths east and west between the two great rivers, Hudson and Delaware, with many smaller and tributary trails. The close and painstaking observations of New Jersey archaeologists and ethnologists prove that there was constant travel of

wandering red men across the State from the earliest times. The main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad from New Brunswick to the Delaware follows closely the great trail of the Indians, which after the coming of the white man was widened until it became a highroad and then the main thoroughfare for stage coaches between New York and Philadelphia.

## 2. Earliest Settlements.

The Dutch, until a year before Newark was founded, had owned for more than forty years—since the establishment of the Dutch settlement at Manhattan—much of the land on both sides of the lower Hudson. There was a tiny village near Bergen Point, and there were a few farms here and there where Bayonne, Jersey City, Hoboken and Hackensack now are. A few Dutchmen and their families had also made small farms in the upper Passaic valley, all the way up to what are now Paterson and Little Falls, and even farther on, Towaco and thereabouts. A few more were scattered along the lower Hackensack. The Indians came to these farm houses to sell the skins of animals they killed. The skins were then taken to New York City, which was called by the red men Manhattan, and by the



*A MAP*  
*SHOWING PRINCIPAL*  
*SETTLEMENTS FROM*  
*MAINE TO THE DELAWARE*  
*AT THE TIME OF NEWARK'S*  
*SETTLEMENT 1666*

Dutchmen New Amsterdam. There the skins were sold by the farmers and traders to the Dutch West India Company, whose agents packed them in great bundles, put them in the holds of clumsy little ships and carried them to Holland.

It was the Dutch West India Company that induced people to come from the old world and live in New York and New Jersey, to gather furs from the Indians, and make farnis. The Dutch thought that all the land along the Hudson was very valuable, and to-day we understand readily enough how far-seeing they were.

Thirty-four years before Newark was founded the West India Company bought all of Staten Island, and what is now Jersey City and Hoboken for goods whose equivalent in the money of to-day would be about \$10,400. They thought this a great deal of money then, little as it seems to us now when we recall that Staten Island alone is to-day worth many, many millions. The Dutchman who sold Hoboken, Jersey City and Staten Island to the West India Company bought it from the Indians for a few coats, hats, guns and groceries. His name was Michael Pau, for whom Paulus Hook, now Jersey City and Communipaw, were named.

The English had for some time wished to hold



all this fine country, and lawyers and others in London said that the ground belonged to them. At last, in 1664, soldiers came from England and took Manhattan by force, and when they captured the city, the entire country which lay between Connecticut and New Jersey, including all of New Jersey, became theirs. This put an end to Dutch rule here. Most of the Dutch farmers and traders, however, stayed on their farms in spite of the change of government. The descendants of some of them are living to this day in Jersey cities and towns on the very land where their forefathers settled more than two centuries and a half ago.

Elizabethtown had only four or five houses when Robert Treat, the man sent out from Connecticut to find a settling place for the Newark colony, saw it early in 1666. Philadelphia was an Indian village; Trenton was not founded until sixteen years after; New York was not as large as Belleville is to-day; and children who were born among the Pilgrim Fathers at Plymouth, Massachusetts, soon after their coming in 1620—those who had survived the hardships of the early days—were just in the prime of life.

Robert Treat had one or two other men with him when he came from Connecticut to look for a place

for a settlement. These men were sent out by people living in the four towns of Milford, Branford, New Haven and Guilford. They first went in boats to the Delaware river, examined the country along its banks and came near choosing for their new settlement the ground on which Burlington, New Jersey, now stands. But they made up their minds that it was too far from the old home in Connecticut and from New York, then the only strong English settlement for hundreds of miles along the coast. On the Delaware, also, they would have had Indians all around them and only the few white people in the forts along the lower Delaware near them. They would have been almost alone in a great wilderness.

### 3. Their Reasons for Settling in New Jersey.

The Newark men went much further away from the other Puritans than any other New England town builders had gone before. There were at least two reasons for this: First, they wished to keep near the seashore; they did not dare settle in the interior for fear of Indians, and they could find no place that suited them on the New England coast that was not taken already or was not too near other settlements, nor too near large tribes of Indians. Second, as they went down the coast to find what

they wanted, they had to go beyond what is now New York State because almost the only white people in it were Dutch, with whom they had been at war two or three years before.

There was perhaps still a third reason for their coming to New Jersey. When the Pilgrim Fathers came over in the *Mayflower* they did not intend to land on the bleak New England coast. They planned to make their homes on the banks of the Delaware. But as the *Mayflower* drew near the shores of this continent the winds drove her far up the coast. When the Puritans found themselves in Massachusetts Bay they were much disappointed and turned southward again, once more trying to reach the Delaware. But the winds were still against them. They never saw the "promised land" on the Delaware of which they had dreamed, and of which extravagant praise had been written by men who sought to get rich Englishmen to buy it from the Indians. The *Mayflower* was again beaten back around Cape Cod, and the Puritans, at last feeling that God meant them to stay where they were, went ashore and founded Plymouth. It may have been that the Newark settlers, remembering that forty years before, the first Puritan immigrants had wished to set up their new home on the Delaware,

thought they would themselves carry out the old plan.

For over twenty years before Newark was founded English adventurers had often visited the shores of what is now New Jersey, and had sent or taken home enthusiastic accounts of what they had seen. Their narratives were often highly colored. They tried to make these new lands as attractive as possible to induce settlers to come out from the mother country. One of these accounts is about the Jersey side of the Delaware. It was written by Master Evelyn in a letter to an English nobleman, was printed and, it is believed, quite widely circulated. It may have been seen by some of the men who were to found Newark, and its glowing narrative might readily have induced them to explore the Delaware river region. It is easy to see that the writer was more anxious to bring settlers to the country that he describes than he was to give a faithful description. Part of the letter is as follows:

"I saw there an infinite quantity of bustards, swans, geese and fowl, covering the shores as within the like of a multitude of pigeons, and store of turkeys, of which I tried one to weigh forty and six pounds. There is much variety and plenty of delicate fresh and sea-fish, and shell-fish, and whales

or grampus; elks, deere that bring three young at a time, and the woods bestrewed many months with chestnuts, wallnuts and mast of several sorts to feed them and the hogs that would increase exceedingly. There the barren grounds have four kinds of grapes and many mulberries with ash, elms and the tallest and greatest pines and pitch trees that I have seen. There are cedars, and cypresse and sassafras, with wilde fruits, pears, wilde berries, pine apples and the dainty parsemenas [persimmons]. And there is no question but what almonds and other fruits of Spain will prosper, as in Virginia; And (which is a good comfort) in four and twenty hours you may send or goe by sea to New England or Virginia, with a faire winde. You may have cattle, and from the Indians two thousand bushels of corn at twelve pence a bushel, so as victuals are there cheaper and better than can be transported.

“If my lord will bring with him three hundred men or more, there is no doubt but that he may doe very well and grow rich, for it is a most pure healthfull air, and such pure, wholesome springs, rivers and waters, as delightfull as can be seen, with so many varieties of severall flowers, trees and forests for swine, so many fair risings and prospects, all green and verdant, and Maryland a good friend and



TRAVELING COMPANIES - SELECTING TOWN SITE

neighbor, in four and twenty hours, ready to comfort and supply."

#### 4. Like the Children of Israel.

No doubt the Newark pioneers thought a long time, and read their Bibles, and prayed for advice from Heaven, before they made up their minds just where they would settle. The Puritans never took any important step without asking Divine aid. They did not try to establish their church where they thought God did not wish it to be. They felt that in coming to this wild country of America they were doing very much as the children of Israel had done, as described in the Old Testament, and were finding a new home, their Land of Canaan, under God's guidance. They felt that they were being watched over and cared for in very much the same way as were the Hebrews in their long and weary journey from Egypt.

#### 5. A Bargain in Land.

After the conference with Governor Carteret at Elizabethtown, Treat and his companions returned to Connecticut, and in the spring, in May, 1666, between the seventeenth and twentieth, the pioneer group of settlers came. The land they chose

included a large part of what is now Essex County, and for it they gave goods which were worth about \$750.

Right here a strikingly significant episode is to be recorded, at the very opening of Newark's history. Treat understood that Governor Carteret was to satisfy all right and title the Indians claimed to the land, and it seems probable that Carteret really believed that when the settlers of Elizabethtown bought their territory from the savages the great tract which was destined to become Newark was included. But when the Newark founders drew near to the land, somewhere between what are now Centre street and Lombardy Place, the Indians were on the bank with dark and menacing looks. They made the white men understand that the ground was theirs and that they had not agreed to sell to anyone.

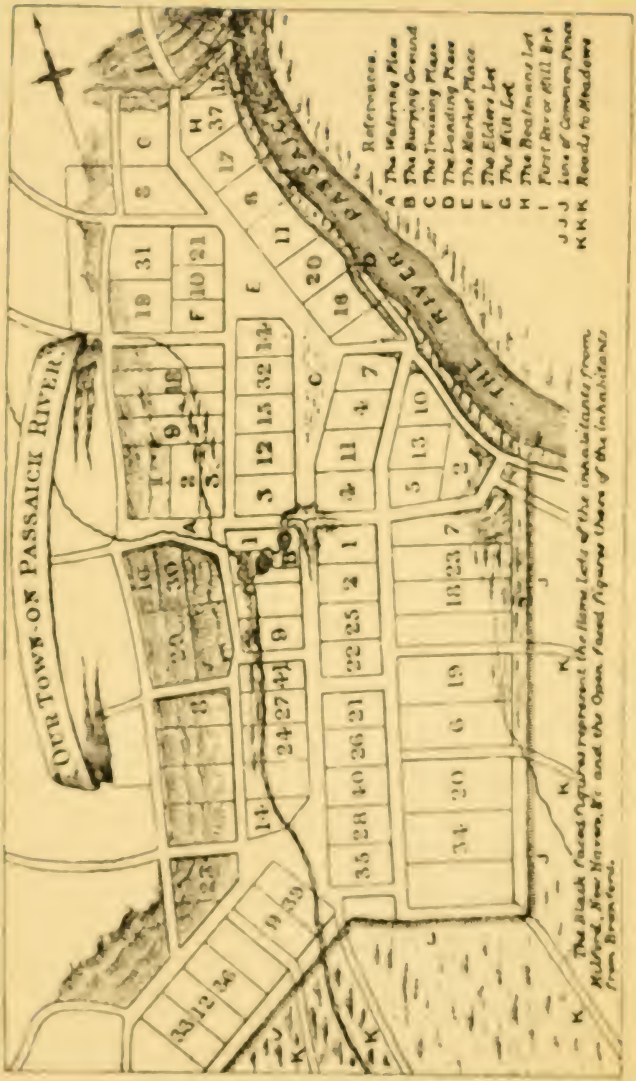
Treat and the little company on the ship with him, drew off in mortification. They returned to Carteret for an explanation. The Governor, much as he desired settlers in his new colony, firmly refused to pay the Indians. Some on the ship were for returning to Connecticut but presently wiser counsels prevailed and Treat with a few others went up the Hackensack to the head village of the savages, where after a long parley an agreement of sale was



made up and later signed by several Indians with their marks or totems, and by the white men.

It should be noted that the founders of Newark did not for one moment think of taking the land without paying for it, although Governor Carteret seems to have been quite willing that they should do so. The first Newarkers were not of the kind to fail to discharge whatever they felt to be their just and proper obligations. They were far-seeing, too, as they no doubt realized that to displease the Indians might mean serious trouble later. The fact that Carteret thought he had discharged all obligations to the savages, and that he was willing they should take the land without paying anything for it beyond the annual quit-rent of half a penny an acre that he and succeeding proprietors were to impose, had no influence with them. They were determined to start their new town honestly, and it is to their everlasting credit and honor that they did so.

The settlers did not pay for the land in money, but in goods. Here is a list of the articles which the Indian Perro and his family, who claimed to own the land, received for it: "Fifty double hands of powder, one hundred bars of lead, twenty axes, twenty coats, ten guns, twenty pistols, ten kettles,



EARLY MAP SHOWING THE TOWNS OF FOUR TOWNS.

ten swords, four blankets, four barrels of beer, ten pairs of breeches, fifty knives, twenty hoes, eight hundred and fifty fathoms of wampum, two ankers of liquors and three trooper's coats."

This payment was not made until after the settlers had been here over a year, as many of the families that had agreed to come did not arrive from Connecticut until about that time. When the first settlers landed, a bill of sale, including the price to be given, was agreed on, but apparently nothing was paid to the Indians until 1667 when most of the settlers had arrived and when each family's share of the purchase price was assessable. Later, additional tracts were purchased. One extended from the western boundary of the first tract at the foot of the Watchung mountains, as the Orange mountains were then called and comprised nearly all of the remainder of what is now Essex County. This was owned by two Indians named Winnocksop and Shenoctos, and they were content to part with it for "two guns, three coats and thirteen kans of Rum," to quote the bill of sale.

It should be a source of honest pride to every resident of this city, and of all New Jersey, that every foot of ground within the limits of the State was purchased from the Indians, and not taken by

force or stolen. The Newark founders were among the first to establish this enviable record and their example was scrupulously followed by all who afterward made settlements in New Jersey. Few of the original States can lay claim to a like record of just and honorable dealing with the red men.

### 6. Wealth of Settlers.

In all the company there were money and goods to the value of about \$64,000. They profited by the sad experiences of the Plymouth pioneers of over forty years before, who suffered much because they settled in a new country with too little money, food and clothing. The Newark settlers made sure that there was to be no "starving time" in their New Jersey town.

Many small waterways ran down the hillside, eastward into the river or the bay, doubtless they had much to do with attracting the settlers here. The streams meant water power and water power meant the motive power for Newark's industries when the time should come for their beginning.

In ancient days, possibly in early post-glacial times, a great river would seem to have flowed down the hillside ultimately along the general course of the present Market street and into Newark bay.

Every deep excavation on Market street unearths fine water-worn sand, which proves to engineers and geologists that there was once water action here.

Other little streams came down the hillside west of the village. One of them ran a trifle north of the present line of Clay street. This came to be called Mill Brook, for on it the settlers' corn was ground for many years. Others found their way to the marshes south of Market street. One ran through Lincoln park, then little better than a marsh, and one where the new City Hall now stands.

Out of the marshes near where the main line of the Pennsylvania railroad crosses the Passaic, rose a long bluff which faced the river and followed its curves all the way up to what is now Belleville. Most of this bluff was leveled away as streets were extended and buildings arose; but traces of it are still to be seen, at Saybrook Place and at Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, for instance. Below the bluff and between it and the river was a stretch of marsh.

The woods about the village abounded in chestnut, hickory, elm, birch, black and white ash, tulip, sycamore, oak and the bitter and sweet gum. The oak the settlers used largely for the frames of their houses, when the day of log huts was over. Many trees were split for fence-rails; many were cut down

and burned to clear the land for planting, and many more for firewood. The bitter gum was used for floors. There was a dense cedar forest to the north-east of Newark on the Hackensack Meadows, and there were thick woods in other places near by; but the earlier Newark historians say that the little town was not by any means closely shut in by forests. As the country was quite open the labor of making farms was much less than it would have been had the ground been covered with trees. The centre of the settlement was at what is now the junction of Market and Broad streets. It must have been a pretty village, after the first year or two, when vines and creepers grew over the log houses and the roughness of the clearing began to disappear.

#### 7. The Four Texts.

When they decided to come to Newark the founders fixed upon four verses from the Old Testament by means of which they planned to frame the whole upbuilding of their town. They were the following:

*And their nobles shall be of themselves, and their governor shall proceed from the midst of them.*  
Jeremiah, xxx, 21.

*Thou shalt in any wise set him king over thee.*

whom the Lord thy God shall choose: one from among thy brethren shall thou set king over thee; thou mayest not set a stranger over thee, which is not thy brother. Deuteronomy, xvii. 15.

Take you wise men, and understanding, and known among your tribes, and I will make them rulers over you. Deuteronomy, i, 13.

Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens. Exodus, xviii, 21.

They wished the town to be a little Kingdom of God on earth. If they had followed out the texts they chose they would have had a king and would have paid attention to no government except their own. All this was very much as the other Puritans in New England had planned to do.

#### 8. Newark the Last Theocracy of Puritans.

One of the most important things to be remembered about this story of the early days of Newark is that the men who made it were the last of the Puritans to try to build up a Kingdom of God on this continent, and that the town of Newark was the final effort of the Puritans in that direction.

For a little while after Newark was started it was governed by Robert Treat, by the pastor, the Rev. Abraham Pierson, and by two or three other leading men. They had for their guidance the "Fundamental Agreements" which were drawn up and subscribed to by the heads of all families before the actual settlement was made. Once on the ground the town's affairs were administered by means of town meetings, according to the New England custom. The town meeting form of government continued; for more than a century and a half from that time the place was governed through town meetings.

While the pastor and the others referred to in the last paragraph directed the affairs of the settlement in the beginning, there were also a captain, two lieutenants and two sergeants whose duty it was to carry out their orders as well as to stand ready to direct the settlers if it should be necessary for the latter to defend themselves against the attack of Indians or hostile white men. These military officers formed the only police the early English colonists had and they were very useful in many ways other than in those that fall to the lot of guardians of the peace to-day. Gradually, with the lessening fear of Indian attacks, and with the perfection of town organization, the need of the mili-



tary officers disappeared. Robert Treat was the first captain.

In less than a year after settlement the town meeting began to choose officers to attend to the business of the community. One of the first chosen was a collector of taxes. Next they chose a treasurer, then surveyors. Two magistrates were soon named, and one of them was Captain Treat. Every year they chose new men for these places or elected the old ones again. Three years after the settlement five selectmen were chosen to have general charge of town affairs.

### 9. The New Jersey Indians.

None of the New Jersey Indians ever made serious trouble for the settlers. The Hackensacks never forgot the honest treatment they received at the founding of the town. The Indians were the Lenni Lenape, who long before the white men came are believed to have been beaten in battle by the fiercer and more powerful tribes from what are now Pennsylvania and New York. The Lenni Lenape seem never to have made war after that early conflict with their savage neighbors.

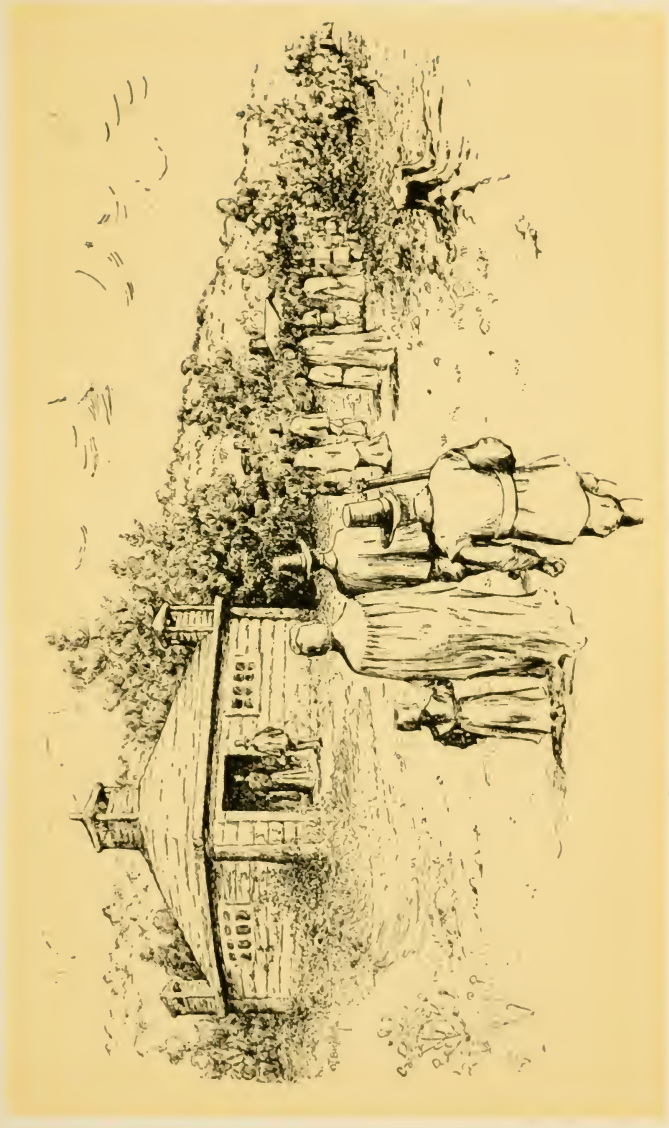
The New Jersey Indians called what is now this State, "Scheyichbi." One of their largest villages

was at what is now Hackensack, and their greatest chief at the time the Newark founders arrived was a very old man, called Oraton. His name has been preserved here only by the street named after him. Oraton seems to have been a wise and just Indian, and seems to have resembled the kindly and broad-minded Massasoit with whom the Pilgrim Fathers at Plymouth had such pleasant dealings.

Some time before the War for Independence the surviving Indians were gathered together from all parts of what is now the State, and placed upon a reservation of one thousand acres in Burlington county. There they became known as the "Edge Pillocks." In 1801 they joined the survivors of the Mohicans on the latter's reservation in New York State. Later both the Lenni Lenape and the Mohicans removed to Michigan. In 1832 there were but forty of the Lenni Lenape living. It seems that one Indian and his squaw refused to leave this State when the others went to join the Mohicans. Their daughter, known as "Indian Ano," lived to a great age. She died in 1804 near Mount Holly, and was known as the "Last of the Lenni Lenape."

#### 10. The First Church a Fortress.

While they were busy with their own houses the people were also planning their church, and built



GOING TO CHURCH IN THE INFANT SETTLEMENT.

it as soon as possible. It stood on Broad street about where Branford place now begins, nearly opposite the present First Presbyterian Church. They put on it a cupola. In this two men stood with loaded guns, during the religious services, to watch for hostile Indians. There were also flankers at two of the diagonally opposite corners. These flankers were little towers, and a man on watch in one of them could look along two sides of the building, so that from the two flankers all four sides could be watched. Every Sunday a fourth of all the men carried guns to church, and from these were chosen, each week, one to watch from the church cupola and two others to "ward," as they called it, standing in the flankers.

### 11. The Church a Precious Thing.

To the settlers of our city the church was the most precious thing they had. All the people went to it. In fact for a few years they did not let people come to live among them unless they were not only willing to go to church, but liked to go, and to the kind of church the settlers believed in. This of course, meant that the minister was one of the leading men. He was not the ruler of the village, for it had no rulers, although the people often gave a few

men great power. Still, the ministers of the church had much to do with making the town. The first minister is believed to have named it, calling it Newark, after Newark on the river Trent in England where he was ordained to preach.

The First Church of Newark, as it was called for many years, is the oldest fully organized church congregation in all of what is now New Jersey. It was of the congregational denomination and was established in Branford, Connecticut, some twenty years before the foundation of Newark. There were a few Swedish churches on the Delaware which were started before the Newark church, but they were all on the Pennsylvania side of the river. There were also a few Dutch churches, but they had a short existence. The First Dutch Church of Bergen, which was started several years before Newark was founded, had no regular minister, and it was not completely organized until many years after 1666.

Newark's first church, that is the church organization, is really older than the town itself by about twenty years, for it was founded in Branford, Connecticut, and when the Branford people removed to Newark they brought with them their entire church organization, leaving very few of the church

members behind. The church organization therefore is now more than two hundred and fifty years old from its foundation to the present.

### 12. The Church as a Meeting House.

The first Newark church was used on Sundays, just as we use ours, for religious purposes; but on week days it was a gathering place for all public assemblies. They did not call it a church but a "meeting house," just as many people in New England speak of their churches to this day. All their meetings were religious. They never gathered together without praying to God to guide them in whatsoever they had to do. They used their church building all the time, for the town's business as well as for the worship of God. Indeed, to them, all business worth doing at all was quite as much God's business as man's.

### 13. Drums Were Very Useful

During the first few years, when the settlers were not quite sure of the Indians, the town meeting was called together by the beating of drums; the lieutenants doing the drumming. Whenever Indians seemed to be plotting trouble, drums were sounded and the people hurried to the church.



A "BURNING DAY" IN THE SETTLEMENT.

On certain days the able bodied men of the town had to give up their time to work for the common good, building roadways, clearing the countryside of brush and trees, laying drains and doing all the other things that must be done to make a new town in a wilderness attractive and comfortable. The underbrush was often cleared by burning. A certain tract was set off for the purpose; the men gathered at the roll of drums and went to this tract. There they applied the torch if the winds were favorable, and watched to see that the fire did not shift and that sparks were not carried to their houses.

On the days when the men assembled to do the town's work, one lieutenant took up his position at the lower end of the town, on what is now Broad street, near Hill and Green streets, (and soon from the southern end of what is now Lincoln Park), while the other started from the neighborhood of Bridge street, or a little below. The lieutenants, beating their drums, proceeded toward the centre of the town, until they met where the little church stood, and the men came out of their homes and followed after. At times when the settlers feared attacks by the Indians strict watch was kept every night. As we have seen, however, the Indians never actually attacked them.



Three men, chosen by one of the sergeants, gathered at some house, one standing watch outside while the others slept inside. They relieved each other through the night and a little before daybreak all three went out and walked about the town to see that all was well. Half an hour after daybreak the town drummer, Thomas Johnson, beat his drum to let the village know that another night had passed safely. His drum beat also told the settlers it was time to get up. Young Johnson also beat his drum on many other public occasions.

It was not long after the village was founded before one of the first comers died, and was laid to rest behind the little church. Thus was started the Old Burying Ground, used for over 200 years. The bones of the early settlers were removed from it in 1887 and placed in a large vault in Fairmount Cemetery. Over the vault rises a monument on which are inscriptions telling of the men and women whose remains lie beneath. The small cut at the beginning of this chapter is from the statute of a Puritan pioneer which forms a part of this monument.

#### **14. Filling in the Meadows.**

In the laying of drains to draw off the water from marshy sections of the farms and the town

lands held in common some of the men provided pipe sections made from gum trees and others laid them down. Thus many a little plot was transformed into dry ground from a marsh or quagmire. The towns in Connecticut from which the settlers came had marshes in them or near them, so being used to swamps in their former homes, the many square miles of Newark meadows did not deter them from coming here. The filling in of the marshes of Newark had been going on for nearly two hundred and fifty years before the great Port Newark Terminal enterprise was started. It must go on for many years more if all are to be filled. It was a tremendous task the settlers had before them. Surely they did not dream the time would ever come when the many thousand acres of solid earth we now see, teeming with industrial activity, would be made out of the swamps.

The settlers seem never to have regretted coming here. There was much hard work to be done, but they seem to have rejoiced in it. Like the Puritans of Plymouth, they held their days of Thanksgiving. The writer has tried to express in the following hymn something of the spirit with which they were animated on such occasions:

**15. Newark Settlers' Thanksgiving Hymn.**

Here in a pleasant wilderness, Thy children, Lord, abide,  
And turn to Thee with thankfulness in this November-tide,  
Almighty God, Thy goodness grows  
More seemly, as Thou dost expose  
Thy purpose to our wondering eyes,  
Led hitherward by Thee

Here by Passaak's gentle flow our humble homes we rear;  
Unchafed by want, unsought by woe, we have no cause for  
fear.

The painted savage peaceful prowls,  
The lurking wolf unheeded growls;  
With steadfastness we hold our way,  
Uplifted, Lord, by Thee.

With pious zeal our task we took, and soon the virgin soil  
By coppice edge, by whimpering brook, hath blest our  
sober toil.

Our log-built homes are filled with store  
From fruitful field, from wood and shore;  
Our hearts are filled with tuneful joy,  
With thankful hymns to Thee.

**16. The Settlers Good Workmen.**

The settlers were good workmen and they trimmed the logs for their first houses very straight with their axes. They hewed them into square timbers, with surfaces so even and smooth that in some cases

it was hard to be sure that they were not sawed. We learn this from men who many years ago inspected the ruins of these old houses.

In the centre of the spot on which a house was to stand, they dug a hole large enough to hold the winter store of food. This was the cellar and was reached through a trap door in the floor. Each house had a ground floor and an attic, with a roof which came down so low at the eaves that a tall man could reach up and take hold of it. The first floor was usually made into one big room—kitchen, dining room, living room and parlor, all in one, with a fireplace large enough to take in a backlog eight feet long. The logs were often hauled into the house by a horse, driven in at one door and out at another. The furniture was very simple and strong, and there was not much of it. The table at which the family ate its meals was sometimes so made that when a meal was over it could be converted into a large seat and pushed back against the wall or forward close to the fireplace.

A pot in which to make a dye out of roots to color their cloth, was found in almost every house. The pot was cut out of a gum tree log. The gum tree decays at the centre and it is easy to cut out the decayed part and put a wooden plug in one end

for a bottom. A piece of wood was fitted into the top to serve as a cover and then the whole thing formed a seat which stood at one corner of the fireplace.

It took six months or longer to make a suit of clothes, for threads had to be spun from flax or wool, and then woven into cloth, then dyed. The settlers grew their own flax, and the wool came from sheep which soon dotted the hillside, where High street now is, all the way from William street to St. Michael's Hospital. For much more than a hundred years the people of Newark, no matter how well off they were, had little but homespun to wear.

Boots and shoes were made by a traveling cobbler. He passed through town once every year or two, stopping with each family until he made boots and shoes for all in the household, from master to servants. The family got ready for him by tanning the skins of the cattle they killed for food. One of the first tanneries in what is now the United States was that of Azariah Crane, on the south side of Market street and about opposite the Lincoln statue in front of the Essex County Court House. Mr. Crane was a son of Jasper Crane who was one of the foremost men among the founders. Azariah

Crane's wife was Robert Treat's daughter. He started the tannery in 1685.

### 17. Newark Ten Years Old.

Ten years after the settlers landed they had a complete little town with a substantial church, an inn or tavern, a good grist mill, and a staunch boat which carried their produce to Elizabethtown and New York and brought back their purchases. Broad street was fairly well laid out as far down as Tichenor's Gate, at the lower end of the present Lincoln Park and as far up as Bridge street. A few more families had come from Connecticut and the town was prosperous in a humble way. It had passed through the early period of struggle without great hardship.

The settlers loved their town, for it was peaceful and they were contented in it. They kept it neat and clean and travelers often spoke of it as a very pretty village. Nearly every house had a row of beehives at the rear. In the summer there were great masses of roses, from which the bees gathered honey, growing up the sides of the houses and sometimes on to the roof. In 1676 the town meeting made a rule (an ordinance as we would call it to-day) that anyone destroying or marring a tree which the

town's officers had marked for preservation with the letter "N" should be fined. This was Newark's first shade tree commission movement.

It was several years before the settlers had a store. Now and then a settler filled a boat with the produce of his farm and sailed with it to New York, where he bartered his cider, fruit, vegetables, grain, beef, chickens and ham, for such articles as he needed. He took in exchange for his goods, sugar, tea, coffee, rum, nails, hinges, hammers, axes and other articles which he and his fellow settlers could not grow or make. When a settler made a trip of this kind he usually took also the goods of some of his neighbors to exchange. Sometimes a settler would bring home from New York more things than he and his family needed, and these he would dispose of to the people living near him. Gradually a few of the settlers got into the way of keeping in their houses small quantities of hammer-heads, nails, knives, saws, and other useful tools, together with groceries, which they sold or exchanged for other things they wanted. Thus, the community's first stores were started.

### 18. **The First Schoolmaster.**

The town was ten years old before the settlers were ready to establish a school, and during those

first ten years children learned their letters at their mothers' knees, or did not learn them at all. John Catlin is believed to have been the first schoolmaster, and only those children whose parents were able to pay for their schooling could attend his school. Free public schools as we know them did not come for more than a century and a half.

In very early days a market place was provided, Washington Park. The stream already described as flowing down Market street ran down the hillside where the County Court House now stands, supplying the tannery already mentioned, and a watering place was agreed on at the point where Springfield avenue and Market street now meet.

There was very little social life in those first years. The church was the chief thing in all men's minds, and when the people were not listening to sermons and prayers in the meeting house or gathered there to talk with each other about the making of their town, they were hard at work in field and forest, or in their beds. If anybody entertained young folks at his house after nine o'clock at night he was liable to a fine, except on special occasions, when permission must be had from one of the town officers. Boys and girls loved fun then as always, and they gave their sober-minded parents and grand-



parents so much trouble that the town actually had to appoint a man to look after them and see that they behaved properly during the church service. This meant that this man must not only see to it that they sat quietly during the two-hour sermon, but must also be sure they were all in church and not sailing toy boats on the river, fishing in the brooks, or engaging in some other pastime.

### **19. Forming New Settlements.**

When the town was started every settler who came had a right to three or more pieces of land, one in the centre of the settlement, another in the salt meadows and the other on the outskirts. The first piece was called the settler's town lot, the second was the pasturage lot and the third, the farm or wood-lot. There were other partitions as the settlement grew. As the boys and girls grew up and became men and women and got married, they often went away to the farm lots of their fathers or to other outlying tracts that the town voted to give or sell them. In this way houses soon sprang up in what are now called the Oranges, in Irvington, Belleville and Bloomfield, and in other places.

### **20. Roads Began as Foot-paths.**

The people who went into the countryside to live constantly traveled back and forth to the parent

town. Newark was for many years the only place where there were stores. Many came on Sundays to the church, sometimes two or three on one horse. In this way were opened the roads we call avenues, along which now whiz trolley cars and automobiles. The planter whose home was furthest away from Newark would naturally pass as close to his nearest neighbor's house as he could in coming here, so that the neighbor's family might join him on his journey, or that he might see them and learn of any news they might have to give. They might wish him to do errands for them in the town. Then he would go by the next neighbor's home and so on down into the town. It did not take much of this kind of travel, always at first on foot or horseback, to wear a path, which after a time grew broad and smooth enough to permit a wagon to pass along. As the wagon path became better known new planters came and built their homes near it. Thus some of the great roads leading into Newark were opened almost before there were any houses near them. Later they were straightened, widened, cleared of trees, boulders, filled in, graded and otherwise improved from time to time. Many of the old roads began in winding foot or bridle-paths, which took the place of the ancient Indian trails.

## 21. The First Industry.

In the early days of the town the planters found apples growing wild in the higher lands toward the Orange Mountains. The apples were small, very much like what we now call crab-apples; but the settlers cultivated them and grafted them with slips which they brought from Connecticut, until they had splendid crops of this fruit every year. Some of the finest apples grown in this part of the country came from the neighborhood of Newark. They were so plentiful that the planters soon began to make cider of them. They made it so well that Newark became known throughout the English colonies in America for the excellence of its cider.

## 22. Treat Returns to Connecticut.

When the town was in good running order Robert Treat went back to his old home in Connecticut. He had done important work here as an organizer and as a leader of men, a work for which history has never given him the credit he deserved. Once back in Connecticut he found much to do there, and few men in any of the English settlements were as useful to the people as he. He was a brave man and a born soldier, ready always to do his duty.

When the New England colonies had to raise a little army to fight the Indians, Robert Treat was chosen to lead the Connecticut soldiers. This was in King Philip's war, in 1675, nine years after Treat and his companions had founded Newark. His soldiers joined with those of Massachusetts Bay and Plymouth colonies on a bitter cold day and marched many miles into the forest near the present Peacedale, R. I., until they came to a swamp with a low hill in its centre. On this hill was an Indian fort, and within its walls were several thousand Indians—men, women and children. Many of the Indian warriors had guns which they had bought or stolen from the white men and with which they could shoot well.

### 23. Treat in Battle.

There seemed but one way to reach the fort, along the trunk of a tree that made a rude bridge over a ditch. This ditch ran all around the fort and the tree trunk crossed it just in front of the gate. When the soldiers saw the little bridge they ran bravely toward it through the swamp. As they tried to cross it the Indians fired at them through narrow slits in the walls of the fort and killed many. Still other soldiers charged for the tree trunk. Again

came flashes of flame from the walls, and the ditch began to fill up with dead and dying white men. The colonists showed great courage at this terrible moment. Their descendants were never more resolute or fearless of death a hundred years later when the War for Independence came. But here something more than bravery was needed. At this instant the Connecticut men, who had been kept as a rear guard, arrived on the field. Major Treat sent part of them into the fight at the tree trunk; the rest he led around to the rear looking for a place where they might break through and attack the red men from the back. The weak spot was found, and quicker than it can be told the Connecticut men were emptying their guns at the Indians, who did not dream that an enemy could possibly get at them from behind until they heard the roar of muskets and caught the sound of the Connecticut men's cheers. Many hundreds of the Indians were killed at the fort and the village that stood inside of it was destroyed by fire. Major Treat was the last man to leave this awful scene of bloodshed. This stroke of the Connecticut men saved the New England soldiers from frightful slaughter and from possible loss of the battle. The victory broke the power of King Philip, and the Indians were never again so troublesome in New England.

## 24. Treat as Governor.

When Major Treat returned at the head of his victorious but badly shattered force, the people of Connecticut hailed him as a hero, and soon made him Deputy Governor. Later he became Governor, and it was while he was in office that the tyrant Andros, sent over by the English King to enforce harsh laws on the colonists and to take their charters away, came to Connecticut. The charter was an agreement in writing, signed by the King, giving the colonists certain rights. Governor Treat received the King's officer in the assembly hall in the afternoon of a warm day and made a speech of welcome. It grew dark while the conference was still going on, and candles had to be brought. The candles were placed on the table on which lay the precious charter of Connecticut. Suddenly some one tossed a coat through an open window on to the table, and thus put out the candles. When the candles were lighted again the charter had vanished and no one seemed to know where it had gone. Andros was in a fury over its disappearance, but could do nothing. The colonists hid it in a tree which is now famous in history as Connecticut's "Charter Oak." Just how much Robert Treat had to do with this plan for

keeping the charter from the King's officer and thus retaining the people's rights, we shall never know; but that he was deep in the plan to help preserve the colonists against greater tyrannies, we may be sure. He lived to be eighty-six, and when he died the whole Connecticut colony felt his loss keenly.

### 25. Settlers were Able Men.

These incidents show what kind of men they were who made Newark. If the Jersey Indians had been hostile; if they had skulked about the settlement watching for a chance to burn the houses and kill the women and children, or to drive their flint-tipped arrows into the hearts of the men as they worked in the fields, they would have found the Newark settlers just as brave as were their relatives and friends in Connecticut. The preparations of the first Newarkers to face an Indian uprising, as already described, show their sturdy character. Robert Treat took up arms when he went back to his old home, because the colonies were in danger of destruction. The future of New England and of the English speaking race from the Delaware to Maine, hung for a little time almost in the balance. Had not the Indians been wholly subdued the settlers might all have been driven away.

## 26. Newark, Yale and Princeton.

There were other men here, quite as good and as strong as the fighting men, who showed their skill and bravery in a different way. The Rev. Abraham Pierson, the pastor of the church (which we now know as the First Presbyterian, but which was originally and for many years after the settlement of the Congregational denomination), was as fearless and as stalwart a Puritan as the men of arms. He was a deep and earnest thinker, and the whole town loved him and looked up to him as the chosen head of that church for which they and their parents and grandparents had suffered so much in England and New England. The son of Pastor Pierson, who bore the same name as his father, was not a soldier, but a scholar like his father. He went back to Connecticut, and in later years, when Yale College was started, became its first president. You may see his statue to-day in the college yard at New Haven.

Newark came very near being the birthplace of what is now Princeton University. The College of New Jersey, which was founded at Elizabethtown in May, 1747, was removed to Newark a few months later, in the same year, when its head, the Rev. Jonathan Dickinson, died. Here it grew and prospered for about nine years, under the charge of





Aaron Burr

the Rev. Aaron Burr, pastor of the First Church, and father of the vice-president of the United States of that name. Some, and probably most, of the college exercises, were held in the church on Broad street on the north side of Branford Place.

The college was founded by the Presbyterian Synod of New York, which included a part of New Jersey. One reason for the establishment of the institution was that the authorities of Yale College did not relish the kindly treatment given by the clergymen of this section to David Brainerd, whom the Yale faculty called one of their "disorderly pupils." Brainerd had been appointed a missionary to the Indians in this neighborhood and in what is now New York State, after he had been expelled from Yale. Brainerd's offense was one that we of to-day would call very trivial, and it is hard for us to understand why a college faculty should take it so seriously. It was charged against him that he had said one of the college instructors had no more spiritual grace than a chaër, and that he had attended a religious meeting of a sect of which the college authorities did not approve. The Rev. Dr. Burr, the second president of the New Jersey College, is said to have remarked: "If it had not been for the treatment received by Mr. Brainerd at Yale College,

New Jersey College never would have been erected." The clergymen in New Jersey were inclined to believe that the students they sent to Yale were made to feel the faculty's displeasure because of the Brainerd incident. The clergy in New Jersey had not hesitated to denounce the harsh treatment given Brainerd at New Haven.

It is possible that college might have remained here to this day had the people living in Newark and hereabouts given it more liberal support. The officers of the college decided that new buildings and other equipment were needed and they asked the people to give money and land for this object. They gave very little and very slowly, and when land was offered at Princeton, with other inducements, it was decided to remove the college thither. So Newark lost an opportunity to become the permanent home of one of the greatest colleges in the country. During the entire period the college was in Newark it had about ninety students. Brainerd, the missionary, who, as already explained was indirectly one of the causes for the founding of the college, died in the same year the institution was founded. He contracted consumption while laboring among the Indians.

Fifteen years or so before the starting of the

College of New Jersey, the First Presbyterian Church became involved in a controversy which finally disrupted it. Colonel Josiah Ogden, a leading member of the church, went into his fields with his servants one Sunday and gathered in his wheat which was in danger of destruction from long continued rains. He was disciplined for this by the church authorities. He resented this treatment, contending that Sunday was made for man and not man for Sunday. There was a long discussion, and in the end Colonel Ogden and many who sympathized with him left the church and founded Trinity Episcopal Church congregation. This was about 1732 or '33. There had been occasional services of the Episcopal Church in Newark for several years previous to this. The first Trinity Church was built in 1743-44, and the base of the spire of the present edifice was in the original structure. Wounded Continental soldiers were cared for in the old church after the disastrous battle of Long Island, in 1776.

### 27. Military Park.

Military Park was first called the Training Place. The first training place was virtually in the original, the Old Burying Ground just west of Halsey street,

a little south of Market street. It was in Military Park that the able-bodied men gathered once or twice a year to drill and practice shooting their muskets. This was done that they might be ready at any time, in case the Indians became troublesome. When King Philip's war was raging in New England the Newark settlers became very anxious for fear the Indians of New Jersey might take up the hatchet. In the year of the King Philip War we find the following in the ancient record of Newark's town meetings:—

“John Ward is chosen to procure a barrel of powder and lead answerable to it, as reasonable as he can; provided that the town pay him within this week in corn, fowls and eggs, or any way to satisfy him.” This was the way they got their ammunition.

#### 28. Newark in 1774.

But more than a century from the time of the settlement was to flow quietly by before Newark had any real cause to become troubled over war's alarms. When the clouds of the coming War for Independence began to gather, the sturdy descendants of the early settlers showed that they possessed the intrepid spirit of their fathers. In Newark was held one of the first meetings in the



GATHERING OF PATRIOTS AT COUNTY COURT HOUSE—1774

entire province of New Jersey to protest against the tyranny of King George the Third. It assembled in the little hall in what was then called the Court House, on Broad street, about where Branford Place is now cut through. All the patriots of Essex County gathered at that meeting. They voiced their protest against the refusal of Governor Franklin, a son of Benjamin Franklin, to call a session of the Colonial Legislature for the purpose of choosing delegates to the first Congress at Philadelphia. But the meeting did more than protest. It drew up a circular letter which was sent out to all the counties of the province, calling upon the people to send delegates to a convention to be held in New Brunswick on July 21 of that same year, 1774. It was at the convention in New Brunswick that representatives to the first Continental Congress were chosen. Resolutions were also passed at the Newark meeting condemning the reigning monarch and the home government of England for its oppression of the colonies.

### 29. In the War for Independence.

Newark and the whole county suffered for its patriotism later on, when war was raging. British soldiers often descended upon the little town and

took away provisions, cattle and sheep worth many hundred dollars; sometimes burned houses, and two or three times took away furniture and abused men and women. The brave pastor of the First Church, the Rev. Alexander Macwhorter, a true successor to the old Puritan pastor, Pierson, spoke out with fervor and fearlessness from his pulpit, and for his boldness was forced to leave the town. Two or three times, British officers and soldiers came from New York or Staten Island to arrest him; but he was always told of their coming in time to escape. In November, 1776, when Washington and his army left Newark in their flight through the State, Pastor Macwhorter traveled with the Commander-in-chief, and counselled with him upon the movement which ended in the capture of Trenton, on Christmas Eve.

### 30. Washington in Newark.

After the defeat and retirement from Long Island, Washington and his army were in Newark for five or six days. They had fled across the Hudson, over the upper Hackensack Meadows and down the west bank of the Passaic. It was a very trying time for Washington. He lost hundreds of his soldiers while in Newark because their terms of service had run out and they wished to go to their homes. British





*Alex. Macpherson*

agents were active in town and country, and offered inducements to the people to sign papers agreeing not to oppose the King's soldiers and not to give aid to the patriot army. Many signed these papers. In fact, at that time and for a number of years afterward, nearly half the people of this town and county were either active Tories, or, in secret, sympathizers with the British government. Thomas Paine, whose tracts did much to stir the flagging spirits of the lovers of liberty, is believed to have had the dark days of the retreat through Newark and on down the State in mind when he wrote, "These are the times that try men's souls."

One of Washington's greatest trials was the failure of General Charles Lee, second in command to Washington, to come to Newark with his army of several thousand men. Had he joined the Commander-in-chief, as the latter urged him to do in letters he sent every day while the army was in Newark, Washington could have made a stand and fought a battle here. Some historians think that he wished to do this. But the cunning Lee would not come. He hoped that Washington would meet with disaster, and that then he could get Congress to make him commander of the armies of the colonists. Later, both Congress and Washington came to

understand Lee's treachery; but not until the latter had made a great deal of trouble and done much harm to the patriot cause.

When Washington left Newark, going toward New Brunswick, people said they could trace the army route by bloody foot-prints of the ragged soldiers. But a great victory was at hand, and soon Newark and all the country rang with cheers over the capture of the Hessians at Trenton. Then came Washington's brilliant strategy at the battle of Princeton, at which in later years the great military students of Europe marveled. After the Princeton battle Washington went into winter quarters at Morristown. He and the army passed two winters there and on many occasions the Commander-in-chief made trips to Newark.

### 31. The Battle of Second River.

Early in September, 1777, General Clinton, then second in command of the British land forces, carried out a somewhat extensive expedition against the towns of this neighborhood. It was really a foraging excursion on a large scale, to gather in the produce of the farms for the use of the British and Hessians in New York and Staten Island.



TOWN'S CHURCH AT A STREET HOSPITAL

Several thousand of the enemy were engaged in the movement.

General Clinton had his headquarters in the old Schuyler house, still standing, east of what is now Belleville. The house is on the old river road (Hudson county side) a little south of the present Belleville bridge.

One of Clinton's columns moved on Elizabethtown from Staten Island, rounding up many cattle in that place and at Connecticut and Lyons Farms, and marching on to Newark. A second force was brought around into the Hackensack river by boat. This was the column that Clinton accompanied. It had two cannon which it got ready for action on the hilltop east of the Schuyler house just mentioned.

When the column from Elizabethtown reached Newark, part of it proceeded as far westward into Irvington and the Oranges as it dared and gathered in many more cattle and much forage. But by nightfall the people were so aroused and were beginning to make such a strenuous resistance that the leader of the British column decided not to remain in the town, marching up to the ravine at what is now called Second river and going into bivouac. Before dawn the men of Newark and the

neighborhood were posted along the south side of Second river and a general engagement began by daylight. The British battery across the river, on the hilltop east of the Schuyler house, opened fire on the Newark patriots and the engagement continued throughout the day. Late in the afternoon the British made a successful movement upon the patriots' left flank, and they retreated. Nevertheless, General Clinton thought it wise to draw off his forces under cover of darkness. He gave his losses as eight killed, nineteen wounded, ten missing and five of his people taken prisoners. It is believed his losses were somewhat heavier. No estimate of the patriots' loss was given. Clinton was very cautious. He realized that his expedition had stirred the whole countryside and he concluded it was not wise to prod it any further. He reported taking 400 cattle, 400 sheep and many horses together with much farm produce. He led his force up the west bank of the Passaic, returning presently to New York City.

### 32. British Outrages.

On one of their forays, in January, 1780, the British burned the Academy at the foot of Washington Park, and, going across the street to a



THE MARTYRDOM OF JUSTICE JOSEPH HEDDEN.

house that stood a little distance north of what is now the corner of Broad and Lombardy streets, seized a brave patriot named Joseph Hedden. They made him walk all the way to Paulus Hook, now Jersey City, through the bitter cold, clad only in his nightgown and a blanket which a neighbor gave him as he and his captors passed. The Academy had been built but a few years before, in 1774, by popular subscription. It was the most pretentious building in the town after the church. During the war it was used as a barracks for small parties of Washington's men detailed for outpost duty from the camp at Morristown or by detachments of militia. The winter of 1779-1780 was the coldest on record in the early days. New York bay, the Hudson, Hackensack and Passaic rivers were so solidly frozen that the British marched their troops over the ice.

These were stirring days for Newark, and the spirit of the old settlers seemed born anew in descendants whose devotion to their country no hardship could shake. Newark and the country had minute-men, and often when the British and Hessians, or bands of Tories made their trips hereabouts looking for food and plunder, these minute-men rallied and fought the foe "from behind each



fence and farmyard wall." They seriously harassed these foraging parties as the latter made their way back through the country toward New York or Staten Island. The battle of Springfield was so near the town of Newark that the people here heard the thunder of its cannon. Newark minute-men doubtless fought in that combat, as did many other Newarkers who were in the companies that enlisted here and in neighboring towns.

### 33. The Fight at the "Four Corners."

One of the illustrations in this book shows a party of the King's soldiers engaged in a lively skirmish at the corner of Market and Broad streets. The British were returning to Bergen hill after a search for food among the farms in and near Newark. For several miles they had been sorely harassed by minute-men. As they crossed Broad street the minute-men's fire from adjacent houses became so severe that the commander of the detachment ordered the men to halt and fire.

In the house on the northwest corner were several men. One of them was very old, too old to shoot, so he sat beside the fire and loaded the guns for the others to use. The British finally charged the house, burst down the door and drove the minute-men out



A SERMON AT THE "FOUR COURSES"; WITH A MEMORABLE DISCOURSE.

of it and through the apple and peach orchard to the west. Some of the British soldiers, finding the old man sitting by the fire, were about to kill him, but the leader, far more humane than many of his brother officers, gave the order to spare him, because of his great age and feebleness.

### 34. Camps and Hospitals.

The Second Regiment, New Jersey Continental line was stationed in Newark from the fall of 1778 until May, 1779, under the command of Colonel Israel Shreve. The location of its camping ground is not definitely known. In all probability it was in Woodside and on the eastern edge of Forest Hill, between Summer and Mt. Prospect avenues a little north of Elwood avenue. Until very recently an old stone structure stood there. It was known as the powder magazine and was believed to have been a storage place for such supplies during the War for Independence. It is also a tradition that General "Mad Anthony" Wayne occupied this spot with his command. There is no proof of this, however.

Trinity Episcopal Church (the predecessor of the present edifice) was used as a hospital for Continental soldiers during the greater part of the war. There are reasons for believing that the First

Presbyterian Church (which stood on the west side of Broad street nearly opposite the present building), and the County Court House which was adjacent to the church, were also used as hospitals. The hospital system here, which attracted the favorable attention of Washington, originated with Dr. William Burnet of this town.

Newark was roughly dealt with by the war. Many of its leading citizens and their families were loyalists. They were forced to leave town and their estates were liable to confiscation. Business was, during the greater part of the war, at a virtual standstill, and the farmers were not inclined to raise large crops for fear of raiders carrying off the fruits of their labor. The religious, social and intellectual life of the little community was sadly shaken by the great struggle. We find very little about Newark in any print for the first half dozen years after the end of the war, which means that the village was so exhausted that there were no activities worth chronicling.

THE STORY OF ITS  
AWAKENING



WILLIAM ROBERTSON 1750-1834  
FROM A SCULPTURE IN THE PUBLIC GALLERY

## CHAPTER II.

### THE STORY OF ITS AWAKENING

The people of Newark, in common with all other communities, when they began to recover from the staggering blows dealt them by the War for Independence, gradually awoke to a realization that they were like children suddenly cut off from the guidance of the mother country. They produced raw material, but they were unskilled in manufactures: they were conversant with the farming industry and untutored in all others. It was a serious situation. Few towns grasped its gravity more clearly than did Newark. It is because of her quick comprehension of the need of industries of many sorts and her remarkable resourcefulness and energy in creating them that she is now one of the great industrial centres of the United States.

The first Independence Day celebration here after the war of which we have record, occurred in 1788. It is highly significant of the temper and spirit of the times that this celebration had very little of the martial in it. Newark had been too intimately connected with the whole bloody struggle

to have much enthusiasm for the sight of soldiery; the din of arms smote her ears with none too pleasant sensations. At the banquet they toasted "The Farmers and Mechanicks of Newark," as well as "The Officers and Militia of Newark." In the parade for the day, however, the militia were conspicuous by their absence. The marchers were the farmers, shoemakers, tanners, carpenters, quarrymen, coach and "chair" makers, painters, wheelwrights, silversmiths, stone masons, comb makers, clock and watch makers, tailors, hatters, saddlers, coopers, butchers, weavers, dyers and fullers, tobacconists, furnace men, ditchers, millers, ship carpenters, blacksmiths and scythe-makers; together with the clergy, physicians, lawyers and the students of two academies. There was also a half-troop of horse, but the accounts say nothing of the men being in uniform.

The day, therefore, was given up to the exploitation of the industries and the arts of peace. It was a distinct and altogether noteworthy effort to arouse civic pride, to stimulate the people to greater efforts to develop the best resources of the country. At that time the establishment of each new industry was looked upon as a patriotic enterprise, and the promoters were hailed as true patriots.



### 35. Newark's Long Sleep.

When the nineteenth century opened there were living in Newark hardly twelve hundred persons, men, women and children. In a hundred years the population had scarcely doubled. Many more people now pass the corner of Market and Broad streets in a few minutes during the busy hours of morning or evening than lived in all Newark in 1800. In the last hundred years Newark has increased in population more than three hundred times. In fact it has done nearly all its growing in the last seventy years. It drowsed and dreamed in peace and quiet, content to stay as it was, for nearly a century and a half, from 1666 to 1820. Its people do not seem to have cared to be rich nor did they wish to see their town made big. They were born, grew up, married, lived their span of years in uneventfulness and moderate labor, died and were buried in the Old Burying Ground, or in the church-yard back of the First Church.

### 36. Newark the Village in 1800.

In 1800 the town of Newark was not huddled closely together as the city is to-day. There was plenty of land around nearly every building. Even with all this open space the boundaries of the town



MARKET STREET EAST FROM MILITARY—1861

proper were narrow, and were practically these: On the north, Bridge street, opposite where the Public Library now stands; on the south, South or Lincoln Park; on the west, Washington street; and on the east, Mulberry street.

Here and there throughout the country to the North, West and South were thinly-settled sections that were later to become the various communities that now make up Essex County. The township of Orange was not set off from Newark until 1806.

The town shepherd tended his flocks in Military Park, which had a post and rail fence around part of it. Where Centre Market now stands was a one-story frame building, used for many years as a post office. On the east side of the park there were but three houses and along the northern boundary but two. The Trinity Church of that day was much smaller than the present building. The main entrance faced the park, in the middle of the long side. In Washington Park the boys and girls played at hide-and-seek among the low crumbling walls of the old stone Academy building, which stood at the lower end of the park nearly opposite the end of Halsey street. It had been burned by the British in 1780, when troops were sent out from New York to harass the patriots. Down

Broad street from Military Park toward Market street were a few low buildings.

The largest building in the town, except the church, was the Academy, which was built in 1792 and took the place of the one destroyed by the British. It stood where the post office now is. If one chanced to meet, about 1830, an old resident, he could tell how the British soldiers came into the town in the daytime, and terrorized the patriots, ransacked their houses, broke and burned their furniture, and filled the street with the fragments of household goods which they destroyed in their search for valuables, all in the hope that they would thus break the spirit of the people who were so bravely fighting for their independence.

At the corner of Market and Broad streets, in 1800, were only two-story or story-and-a-half buildings. There were orchards and gardens behind these buildings and sometimes between them. The centre of the space where the two streets meet, and where the car tracks now cross, was ten or fifteen feet lower than the corners, and here was a town pump, surrounded with mud in summer and with ice and slush during most of the winter.

### 37. The Old Tavern and Southern Trade.

On the northeast corner was Archer Gifford's tavern with its wonderful sign which every boy in

town no doubt thought a great work of art. The name of the tavern was "The Hunters and the Hounds." These words were on the sign, with a painting showing a pack of hounds and several hunters on horseback, one of the hunters holding aloft a fox by the hind legs while the hounds jumped about him. The sport of that day for gentlemen, especially in the South, was fox hunting. Planters coming from the South frequently stopped at this tavern or one of the others, and the pretty town of Newark became well known because of its natural beauty and through the stories of good fare and pleasant times which the planters told when they returned home. In this way trade with the South sprang up when Newark began to make things to sell. Southerners bought Newark goods liberally, and trade with the South grew as Newark grew.

Nothing did so much to develop Newark as the building of the bridges across the Passaic (at Bridge street) and Hackensack rivers and the rude log road between, in 1792. From that time Newark took the lead among the communities of New Jersey.

Much of the life of the town, in 1800, centered around the taverns. It was there that one went to get the news of the day. Two or three were opened shortly after the War for Independence, and soon



16. STAGE CHANGING DAYS. AT MARKET AND BROAD STREETS.

became the favorite resorts for all persons passing up or down the country. Travelers from over the hills, from Morristown and beyond, stopped here on their way to New York, and usually stayed over night to refresh themselves before going on. Those who came from Philadelphia and beyond, also stayed here, unless they stopped at Elizabethtown and there took a boat to New York.

### 38. The Stage Coach.

Soon after the bridges were opened a stage line between Newark and New York was started. The stage went to New York in the morning and returned at night, and though it made only one trip each way every day except Sunday and carried only six passengers, it was spoken of at the time as "a great convenience." It started from the Gifford tavern in the morning and returned in the afternoon, always with a grand flourish of horns. Other lines were soon created. There were two or three coaches that plied back and forth between Newark and Jersey City, carrying the first commuters. For many years this means of communication with New York, and that by boats, filled all needs. In 1840, despite the fact that the first railroad had been established several years, there were eight or ten

coaches running to and from New York every day, each carrying fourteen or fifteen passengers, some sitting outside and others traveling inside.

### 39. Broad Street in 1800.

In 1800 the jail stood a little north of where Branford place now is and where the second church building of the town had once stood. Across the street and a little further south was the First Church, just as we see it to-day, except that it was quite new then and the people thought it a splendid edifice. It was dedicated in 1791. It was the most pretentious building in all the town, as the people believed it should be. The man who had most to do with getting it built was Pastor Macwhorter, already mentioned as a brave patriot and fearless preacher during the war. Here and there along Broad street below Market were stores. On the south corner of Broad and William streets, a little west from the former, was the First Church parsonage. (The original parsonage, the home of the Rev. Abraham Pierson, Sr., was about where the Broad street station of the Central now stands. The Burr parsonage is believed to have been the second.) Here was born Aaron Burr, son of one of the pastors of the church, and vice-president of the United



States in 1801. He was a good soldier during the War for Independence, but later failed to maintain high standards of honor and citizenship. From this point on the houses were fewer and farther apart, and the southern limit of the town was reached at what is now the junction of Clinton avenue and Broad street. Clinton avenue was a cart path, and Broad street here ended in a swamp. Mulberry street was known as the "East Back street" and Washington as the West Back street.

#### 40. High Street and Westward in 1800.

Along all the length of High street there were but two or three houses and the street itself was little more than a lane. Beyond it, to the west, there were a few inviting paths, lovers' walks in fact, where the young men and women of Newark strolled on quiet Sunday afternoons, looking down on the little village nestling among the trees below, with the blue bay beyond. On week days sheep and cattle pastured in the fields and meadows beyond High street; and except for an occasional planter travelling back and forth from town to his home on the Orange Mountains or near by, one might stroll for hours over what are now the Weequahic section, Clinton Hill, West Newark, Roseville, Forest Hill

and Woodside and hear no sounds save those of nature. It is hard to realize that in 1800 everybody living in the town knew everybody else. This was a fact, however. Even forty years later old gentlemen sometimes wrote to the newspapers that they no longer knew even by sight all whom they met on the street, so great had the town grown!

#### 41. A Farm in Mulberry Street in 1815.

In the year 1815 a prominent Newark man wished to go to Europe, and to pay his expenses he decided to sell some of his land. So he advertised for sale his house, and his farm of about ten acres, extending along Mulberry street about eight hundred feet, and running all the way to the Passaic river where it had a frontage of about eight hundred feet. There was a board fence nine feet high all around this farm, and in the advertisement the owner stated that: "Last season, besides cutting fifty-six tons of hay, there were kept in the pasture twenty-five Merino sheep, three cows in the best order, and a flock of eighty or one hundred sheep may be amply supplied with grass on the premises." The tract just described is now one of the most densely built-up sections of the entire city and the ground alone is worth several million dollars. Yet it was

of farms such as this that Newark was very largely made up at that time. Just think of ten acres with only one house on it, in the heart of the Newark of to-day!

#### 42. Quiet Sundays in Old Newark.

Many of the solemn old citizens of Newark did not like to see their town awakening from its long sleep, and it hurt them most of all to see the calm of their Sundays disturbed. Evidently they felt that a change was coming; they saw that the young generation was growing uneasy under the restraints put upon it during the day of rest, for, a little before 1800, a large number of them formed an association to preserve the old Puritan Sabbath. They agreed neither to ride out nor to travel on Sunday except in cases of necessity, nor let their children or apprentices do so, but to keep them indoors all day long. They also agreed to try to get everyone else in the town to live in the same sober way. They would let no wagons of any sort be driven about or through the town on Sunday. They even stopped a coach bearing the United States mail, and had to be told that they would be handcuffed and taken to Washington as prisoners if they did not let the mail carriers alone. Once they halted a carriage in which



Market Street, South from Market—About 1825.

a young army officer was driving on his way to New York. The officer threatened to shoot them as he would robbers. Then they let him go. It is believed that this young officer was Winfield Scott, afterwards famous as the hero of the Mexican War, and the head of the army at the time of the outbreak of the Civil War. On still another occasion a gentleman travelling from the South was not permitted to continue his journey on the Sabbath. He stayed at the Gifford tavern and on Monday, when the landlord asked for his pay, he told his host to collect the money from the stern and puritanical citizens who had made him stay over Sunday against his will.

But little by little this spirit of intolerance, a relic of the old puritanism of which we find many traces in the history of the beginnings of Newark, died out, and new and broader life began. Even this freer order of things was found far from pleasant by the immigrants from Europe and the struggle for greater freedom, chiefly in the matter of Sunday observance, began in real earnest soon after the Civil War.

#### 43. Newark Begins to Make Things.

The greatest incentive to the growth of Newark was the discovery by the people that they could

make things that other people would pay money for. They found that they were handy with tools. Other towns had sprung up about them and bought the things Newark people made. In the country north and west of the town were still a few Indians, and also bear, elk, deer, wolves and other wild animals. Farmers were raising good crops on the fertile soil. They brought their products to market in Newark, and the Newark people began to give the things they made to the farmers in exchange for food, wool, lumber and other products.

#### 44. Making Boots and Shoes.

Long before the War for Independence the settlers tanned and curried leather; but they seem to have done it only for home use until about 1790. Then a man named Moses Combs opened a little factory and made boots and shoes to sell. He may be called the first manufacturer of Newark and the virtual father of Newark's industries. A tablet in his memory was dedicated in 1915 and unveiled in 1916 on Washington's Birthday.

#### 45. An Early Free School.

He started one of the very first free schools in the United States. This was about 1800. He opened

this school for his apprentices, and built a large building on Market street near Plane, part of it for a school and the rest for a church. His was also one of the very first schools with a free school feature. He also conducted in his building some of the very earliest night classes. Mr. Combs was not pleased with the preaching in the First Presbyterian Church, although he had long been a prominent member of it and had given liberally to help erect the present First Presbyterian Church building. So he started a church of his own; but it did not last long. This shoemaker was also a strong believer in freedom for all men, and, though he lived over half a century before the War of the Rebellion which set the slaves free, he talked in favor of their freedom wherever he went. He did more; he gave freedom to a black man whom he owned as a slave. In this case kindness was poorly rewarded, for the negro was an evil-doer and was hanged for murder in what is now Military Park, in 1805.

This pioneer of Newark's manufacturers was a far-seeing man in many ways. In his idea of a free school he sought to supply education, not only because it was a good thing for the boys and girls, but also because he wished to make out of them better workmen for his factory. This was really

the beginning of the industrial and trade and manual training school idea of which we of to-day are only just now beginning to appreciate the great need. Mr. Combs, the far-seeing, discerned this need a hundred years ago.

Mr. Combs was probably the first Newark manufacturer to send any of his goods to the South. He sent two hundred pairs of sealskin shoes to Georgia. This shipment brought more orders, for this man made his shoes very well and the Southerners liked them. Later Mr. Combs received as much as \$9,000 for one shipment of shoes to the South.

#### 46. Newark a Village of Shoemakers.

His neighbors saw him making money, and some of them also began to make shoes to sell. Soon Newark was sending shoes by the wagon-load far and wide. So busy were the people making shoes, in 1806, that when a map of the town was made in that year, the map maker drew on its margin a picture of a shoemaker busy at his last; and this map is known as the "Shoemaker map" to this day. A few years later (nineteen-twentieths of the Newark men, women and children who worked for other people were employed in manufactures in which leather was used. At one time a third of all the



people worked at shoemaking. Newark manufacturers had to hire men and boys from other towns to work in their shops, for there were not enough here. Workmen came from far and near, and the town grew very rapidly. In 1810 there were 6,000 people in the city; in 1826, 8,000, and in 1830, 11,000. In 1833 the population was estimated at 15,000, with 1,712 dwelling houses. After the first 117 years—from 1666 to 1783 when the War for Independence closed—the village was a village still. In the next 50 years it grew to be a town of 15,000.

#### 47. The Stone Quarries.

Shoemaking seems to have aroused the people to make other things to sell. The quarries of brown-stone in the neighborhood of what are now Bloomfield and Clifton avenues, from which building-stone had been taken in small quantities even before the War for Independence, now became very busy places. Many tons of the stone were taken out and used for buildings in and near Newark, and much of it was sent to New York. Clifton avenue, from Bloomfield avenue, north, is built for half a block over one of the most famous of the old quarries. The going and coming of the stone sleds and wagons made that section of the town a bustling neighborhood in the early years of the last century.

#### 48. Flour Mills and Saw Mills.

Two mills in which grain was ground into flour stood on Mill Brook, which ran down the hillside, and crossed Broad street at the point where Belleville avenue now begins. One of them was built by the first settlers and they looked on it as almost as great an undertaking as the building of their church. They appointed a special committee to go about the woods and fields to find stones that would do for mill stones. There were also two saw mills on the brook, a little east of Broad street. Near by a store was started, and thus, early in the last century, the upper section of the town became its busiest and most enterprising section. There were grist and saw mills at the southern end of the town very early in the eighteenth century.

#### 49. Iron Foundries; Tool Making.

As the shops and mills grew in number, the call for tools to use in them increased. Iron was needed, and it was not long before the first iron foundry in the town was started, on the spot where the Second Presbyterian Church stands at the corner of Washington and James streets, opposite Washington Park. A short distance away, in the middle of the park, is the statue of Seth Boyden, and if a statue

can ever be said to stand on a spot where it feels at home, this one certainly may.

#### 50. Seth Boyden, Inventor.

Moses Combs taught the people of Newark that they could make things to sell, and Seth Boyden made them tools with which to work and helped them in many other ways, discovering new methods of doing things, methods that took less time and cost less money. The foundry mentioned above, at the corner of James and Washington streets, was not his; but shortly after he came to Newark, in 1815, he started his first shop in Broad street a little north of Bridge where he made leather by the use of his own machines. He made the first malleable iron in a foundry which he opened after he gave up leather making, in Bridge street, north side. From the Boyden foundries and shops, the last being in Orange street, east of Broad, came the tools and machines with which the Newark workers were able to make some of the best articles that were sold anywhere in the country.

Newark needed very much a man like Seth Boyden, the inventor, just when he came. The effect of his inventions upon the town was wonderful. He was the first to make patent leather in this

country. On July 4, 1826, when all the townspeople were flocking to Military Park to witness the celebration, the greatest that had ever been held in Newark, of the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Seth Boyden, toiling in his foundry on Orange street, discovered how to make malleable iron for the first time in history, so far as utilitarian purposes go.

### 51. Boyden a Many-sided Genius.

Boyden was a deep thinker, and he used his brain to benefit mankind. Benjamin Franklin discovered by means of his kite that electricity came from the clouds to the earth; and many years afterward our Newark inventor found, without any kite and simply by means of a copper wire which he stuck in the ground in Irvington, that electricity went from the earth to the clouds. Nobody before Boyden knew that this was so. He found our strawberries small and, though pleasant to the taste, not half so sweet as they now are. He studied the strawberry and by careful cultivation produced the large and luscious fruit as we now know it. Many of the things he did would have made him a rich man had he lived to-day; but he seemed never to think of riches; he worked so hard and so earnestly,

we are told by those who knew him, that he scarcely knew the difference between day and night.

### 52. Coaches, Coach-lace, Saddlery.

The commercial manufacture of coaches began soon after the shoemakers got to work. This and many other industries were struggling into a feeble life shortly after the War for Independence, as told at the beginning of this chapter. These first Newark coaches would seem clumsy affairs to us, but being well adapted to the needs of the time, they met with favor and were sold and sent to different parts of the country. Close on the heels of the coachmakers came the workers in coach-lace. Saddlery hardware also was needed and Newark began to make it.

### 53. Hats, Jewelry, Beer.

Then came hat making. In 1830 there were nine hat shops in Newark. Soon the manufacture of jewelry was begun. In 1836 there were four jewelry shops here and thirteen tanneries. Trunk making was also carried on early in the last century, but on a small scale. The brewing of beer was begun early, too, and in 1830 there were two breweries here. From that time on the number and kinds of shops, factories and mills increased rapidly.

In 1777 there were 141 dwelling houses in Newark. In 1832 there were 1,542.

#### 54. Power from Water and from Animals.

At first water power was used to drive machinery in factories, though horses and oxen sometimes furnished the power by treadmills. In the treadmills animals were made to try to walk on a place almost as steep as the roof of a house, on slats of wood which moved downward as fast as they were stepped on. The slats were fastened closely together so that the animals' hoofs would not go between them. As the slats moved, wheels beneath were turned. These wheels turned other wheels in the shop. Of course the poor animals never got to the top of the steep place. In fact, they never got much higher than they were when they started. If they grew tired the wheels went slower and slower, and the shop did not have enough power. Boys and men made the animals go faster and, sad to say, often used whips. About the year 1810, in a foundry on Market street, a blower was used, and an ox walked a treadmill to make the blower go. The first printing presses used in Newark were turned by hand. Steam for power in shops and factories did not come into use in Newark until about 1825.

### 55. Ships; Whaling; Canal.

Not all the new business life in Newark was on land. About 1839 the Passaic river became a very busy place. A hundred vessels of all sorts were owned here and plied between Newark and other ports. A little later, as many as 300 vessels passed in and out of Newark bay in one day. Two or three large whaling ships were fitted out here, and one of them, after a cruise of over two years, sailed proudly up the Passaic with a full cargo of 3,000 barrels of whale oil and 15,000 pounds of whalebone. In 1832 the Morris canal was completed, and this brought a great deal of business to the now thriving community. For years Newark got nearly all of its coal, much of its wood for fuel, and other commodities by the canal.

### 56. Eminent Men in Newark.

Early in the last century Newark was known far and wide as a pleasant place to linger in and many prominent men lived here for a time or made visits here. The great French wit, statesman, diplomat and man of letters, Talleyrand, made his home here for about three years, from 1792 to 1795. He had fled from France and later from England. Blenner-

hasset, a famous English immigrant whose latter years were made stormy and melancholy largely through his dealings with Aaron Burr, also lived here for a time. Probably Burr, who was a native of Newark, had something to do with Blennerhasset's coming here. Peter Van Berckel, minister from the States of Holland to the United States late in the eighteenth century, made his home in Newark, and died here.

The noble Lafayette, who had so much to do with the successful termination of the War for Independence, paid Newark a visit in 1824, and was given a great reception in Military Park. He was entertained before the reception in the Elisha Boudinot house where the Public Service Terminal building now stands. Henry Clay was in Newark in 1833. In 1852, Louis Kossuth, the Hungarian patriot, was received by the people of Newark with great ceremony. Abraham Lincoln, while on his way to Washington just before his inauguration in 1861, made a short stop in this city, on the eve of Washington's birthday. President Andrew Jackson and President Van Buren, when vice-president; Generals Grant, Sherman, Sheridan and McClellan and others of the country's great men have also enjoyed Newark's hospitality during the last century.



## 57. Newark Awake.

Such is the story of Newark's Awakening. If read thoughtfully it seems quite as wonderful as many a tale of fancy you will find. A hundred years ago and more Newark was like a little hive of drones; now it is a great hive of busy bees. Once it was like an idle boy, lying dozing in the sun; now it is like a huge giant, awake and active, with great muscles knotted on arms and legs and vast wealth piled up around him. One might almost say that Newark was discovered a second time; that is, that the leading and progressive men discovered the communities very soon after the War for Independence and with high and prophetic resolve determined that Newark should not stay a village forever, but must awake, grow, expand.



THE STORY OF ITS  
PROSPERITY



NEWARK, FROM THE PABNIC BY RINICO  
—AN IMPRESSION.

## CHAPTER III.

### THE STORY OF ITS PROSPERITY

Newark was a city in size as early as 1830, and still conducted itself as if it were a village. Town business was done very much as it had been ever since the settlers came, with town meetings twice a year, and oftener if necessary. There were few officials to attend to the many kinds of public business. All who were entitled to vote joined in discussions at town meetings over every little thing that had to be done, and even the smallest things were often very tardy of accomplishment. Slowly and reluctantly the cautious leaders of Newark's prosperity realized they needed a better way of running their town, and in 1833 the first step was taken in this direction. Permission was obtained from the State Legislature to divide Newark into four wards, although the wards were not formally instituted until 1836. For 160 years the community had been content to be what is called, legally and politically, a township. With its division into four wards it became a town.



NEWARK'S FIRST MAYOR.  
WILLIAM HALSEY

It is worth noting that this step in Newark's advancement had in it something that reminds one of the founding of the town—the number four. The settlers came from four towns in Connecticut, New Haven, Milford, Branford, and Guilford; they started their town at the four corners of what are now Market and Broad streets, each community taking a corner for itself. When the four wards were formed in 1833 the four historic corners were used again. The wards were made to start from the corners and were called North, South, East, and West. It is interesting also to note that in founding the town the settlers selected four texts from the Old Testament for their guidance.

#### 58. Newark Becomes a City: 1836

The town form of government, so long in coming, lasted only three years, and then the real city began its life with much the same form of government that we have to-day. There was tremendous excitement at the time of the election on the adoption of a city charter on March 18. Three-fifths of the voters cast favorable ballots. This was the vote: 1,870 "for"; 325 "against." The first mayor was William Halsey. The number of town officers was increased, there being more than ever for the community to do

in taking care of itself. Newark then had about 20,000 inhabitants.

For many years after the War for Independence, Newark had but two constables to preserve the peace. As the factories and their workers increased in number the town found it must have more men to see that order was kept, and about the time the city was formed there were twelve constables, who were the policemen of their day. They had big rattles which they sounded by whirling them around and around in the hand; these they "sprung" when there was trouble and they needed help. They had to call for assistance very often, for the boys and young men who worked in the rapidly multiplying shops liked to have fun at night. Sometimes the boys took the gates from in front of the houses facing on Military and Washington Parks, and burned them in the park in big bonfires. The constables had all they could do to stop such pranks.

The whole country around was waking up. People in all the neighboring cities and towns were finding out what an immense country this is, and that there was a large number of people to be fed and clothed and housed and transported from place to place. Newark's brightest men were growing to understand that if the town was to become powerful



and helpful among its neighbors the people must work with a more united effort to make it so. New and quicker and better ways must be found for doing all the things that now had to be done to keep the city prosperous and to make it the equal of all its sister cities in the matters of neatness, comfort, intelligence and general progressiveness.

### 59. **The First Railroad.**

Just when the stage coach seemed to be flourishing most, railroads came. The first one in Newark was put in operation early in December, 1833. It ran from Jersey City to the corner of Broad and William streets, where the old City Hall stood until the winter of 1907-'08. This City Hall in the early railroad days was the City Hotel. Trains going to Jersey City stopped first at Chandler's Hotel on Broad street, about opposite Mechanic street; next at Market street near where the Pennsylvania station now is; and then at the foot of Centre street, just before crossing the river. In those days it was not thought safe to run locomotives over some parts of the soft and spongy marshes, so at intervals along the way the cars were drawn by horses for short distances. This railroad was conducted by the New Jersey Railroad and Transportation Company. It

shook one up to ride on it almost as much as did the stage coach, the roadbed was so rough and the machinery so crude.

The next year prominent men from different parts of northern New Jersey met in a Newark tavern to take the first steps for the building of the Morris and Essex Railroad. For many years this railroad ran its eastbound trains down Broad street from Division street, turning into Park Place opposite the present Central avenue and continuing on down Centre street, where passengers bound for New York took the trains of the New Jersey Railroad and Transportation Company. There are numbers of Newarkers still living (in 1916) who remember this.

Newark, as well as other places in this part of the State, was really suffering for means to carry away the great quantities of goods it was making and selling, and to bring back from other places the things it was buying.

The growth of the railroads, as the people realized their usefulness, slowly but surely put an end to the day of stage coaches; and the big, clumsy vehicles with their four or six horses which came clattering up to the Newark hotels from Jersey City, New York, Morristown, Elizabeth and other places,

became fewer and fewer. Change and progress were in the air. Newark was reaching out and getting into closer touch with the rest of the world by means of railroads, the canal and shipping on river and bay.

Next, the call became loud for better motive power for shops and mills than that to be had from a water-fall or from a slow-moving horse or ox, and steam was introduced, as was told in the last chapter. In 1836 there were one hundred and thirty-six factories in Newark and new ones were being opened every month. As it became easier to get to and from other places, the shops and factories found it easier to sell more goods, and more men and boys were constantly needed to work in the shops to make the increasing quantity of goods.

#### 60. The Young City Thrives.

And so more people came to the town. They came from all the small places in this part of New Jersey, strong young men and boys who were tired of the quiet life of their native villages and weary of working on farms. Soon the town was filled to overflowing, and many a staid old mansion was turned into a boarding house to make room for the little army of workers that was now streaming in.

Not all the workers were found in this State. Foreigners were pouring into the country by way of New York and some of them upon landing heard of the busy little town on the Passaic and came here. Among the first were the Irish, of whom there had been a few from the early years of the nineteenth century. No one knows just when the first Irish immigrants reached Newark, but there were probably about thirty families of them here in 1828, the men and boys working in the foundries and in the coach factories, hat shops and as day laborers. The Germans, too, soon learned that work was to be had here, and as early as 1833 there were at least seventy-five from the Fatherland in Newark. These must have written letters home to tell others what a good place this was to live in, for only two years later there were three hundred Germans in Newark.

For a time comparatively few people from other countries were to be found in Newark. All who came soon found work, and every now and then a sturdy workman who had come to this country with little in the world that he could call his own besides the clothes on his back began to lay the foundations of a fortune. Among them were some of the men who have helped make Newark the great and powerful city it is to-day. These were not only

willing to work but they were quick to discover new ways for making things.

The first Irish who came to Newark did for the most part the work that Italians, Poles and Hungarians now do here; and the Germans when they arrived in great numbers in the forties and fifties of the last century shared with the Irish in doing the hard manual labor. In 1848 and 1849 and in the next few years the Germans came in great numbers. There was a revolution in Germany, and brave men and women who had sought for liberty and could not find it in the old country hoped to enjoy it here.

In *Harper's Magazine* for October, 1876, we find an interesting picture of German life in this city. It says: "A wondrous tide of Germans has flooded Newark, dropping into all the vacant lots [and there were very many of them then] and spreading itself over the flats to the east and the hills to the south and west, until it numbers one-third of the voting population. The German quarter on the hills is one of the interesting features of the city. A section nearly two miles square is a snug, compact, well-paved city within a city, giving evidence of neither poverty nor riches. The Germans who dwell here are chiefly employed in the factories and nearly all own their own houses. They live economically and

save money. German habits and German customs appear on every side. The women carry heavy bundles, great baskets and sometimes barrels on their heads. Wherever there is room the Germans have gardens and raise vegetables for Newark market. At early morning the women may be seen driving their one-horse wagons into town."

### 61. Hard Times of 1837.

In 1837 Newark was stricken by the hard times which swept over the entire country. Some of the city's industries suffered severely and have not fully recovered to this day. Before the manufacturers of certain lines of goods could recover from the misfortunes other cities and towns had begun to make the same goods and had taken the markets that had formerly been supplied by Newark factories.

In 1837 the population of the city was over 20,000, and the next year was 4,000 less. Business was poor, shops were closed and many people went to other cities and towns looking for work. Not until about 1843 did the city regain its former vigor. In 1860 there were 73,000 people here. The next year there were but 70,000, for many Newark men had shouldered muskets and marched off to the defense of the Union in the Civil War. In 1863

more men went to the war, and the number of inhabitants dropped to 68,000. In 1864 it had risen again to 70,000, and at the end of the year 1865, the war being over, and the soldiers returned home, the population was estimated at 87,428.

### 62. A Time of Prosperity.

The town was teeming with life in 1849. A shrewd observer wrote: "People appear to be flocking from every direction to share with us in the luxury of living in so pleasant and beautiful a city as Newark, where anyone who is willing to work can earn enough to make ends meet and have something over at the end of the year, if economy is exercised." This writer calls those times "years of plenty." In 1845 there were over 3,800 dwellings in the city.

### 63. How They Fought Fires.

Newark in the very early days and until after the War for Independence, did not have many fires, so it did not pay much heed to the talk of the wise men who often said a fire department was needed. During the War for Independence the British soldiers now and then burned buildings in the town; but after the war was over few thought there would

be any more serious danger from flames, until a handsome home fronting on Military Park burned down in 1798. Soon after this a little hand-engine was bought and a fire company formed. Long hose was not used in those days. The little engine was taken as close to the fire as possible and short iron or wooden pipe thrust into cisterns, used to throw the water on the flames. Horses were not thought of for hauling the engine to the fires. The men of the fire company enjoyed hauling the engine themselves, pulling it by a long rope.

#### 64. The Old Hand Engines.

During the War of 1812 there were several fires in the city, which many thought were started by someone who sympathized with the British. Soon after this war a second engine was bought, and a second fire company formed. Both companies wanted the fine new engine and there was a great wrangle about it. Finally, to settle the dispute it was decided to toss up a coin and cry "heads" or "tails." The first and oldest company won the toss and got the new engine. In 1819 a third engine was bought. This was made in Newark and the people were very proud of it for that reason.



### 65. The Great Fire of 1836.

In 1836 there were half a dozen hand engines and as many companies. It was in that year that Newark had to fight its first big fire. On the south side of Market street, a little east of Broad, were a number of boarding houses, and in one of these, a small, two-story frame structure, a boarding place for Germans, the fire began. The flames spread rapidly. Fire companies came from New York, Rahway, Elizabeth and Belleville. At one time it looked as if the entire eastern part of the city would be consumed. The firemen fought bravely for five hours. Two naval officers who came from Elizabeth tried to stop the flames by blowing up buildings in their path, but this did no more good than it did in the great San Francisco fire following the earthquake of 1906. Nearly all the buildings on the block bounded by Broad, Mulberry, Market and Mechanic streets were destroyed, as well as the buildings on the south side of Mechanic street. The State Bank building on the corner of Broad and Mechanic streets and the First Presbyterian Church were saved only after a most desperate battle. The town was exhausted after the fearful fight, and business was at a standstill for a few days. It was years before the burned district was rebuilt.

In 1845 the city had another great alarm. Five houses were destroyed on Broad street opposite Trinity Church and the church was on fire seven times from sparks. Highly colored pictures were made of this fire and no doubt were eagerly bought, for colored pictures were something quite new at that time and naturally popular.

#### 66. The First Steam Fire-Engines.

The firemen were all volunteers, and some of the companies were composed of the most prominent men in the city. Nearly every house had its fire buckets, made of leather, and you usually found them hanging from a peg in the front hall. They were as familiar objects in homes as hat racks are in the homes of the present generation.

The first steam fire engine was bought in 1860. The volunteer firemen were not pleased to see it come, and Newark was slower than some other cities in taking up with this invention. After the first one came, another soon followed; then the old companies began slowly to disappear, and gradually the paid fire department which we know to-day, one of the best in all the country, was built up.

#### 67. One of the Old Schools.

One of the old schools of Newark, a pay school, stood on the south side of Market street a little east

of Halsey. It was built in 1804. A little later the town decided to expend \$500 every year for the schooling of poor children.

When the town was made a city in 1836, four free schools were started, one in each ward. These schools were not at first in buildings by themselves, but were opened wherever rooms could be conveniently rented. Children of the poor went to these four schools, which for a time did not grow very rapidly, as parents did not like to send their children to them; it seemed like accepting a charity from the city, and people with any feeling of independence did not like to have everybody know they were too poor to pay for schooling. This feeling in time passed away: for parents gradually realized that every family had a right to send its children to the public schools, since the head of every family paid taxes for their maintenance.

#### 68. More Schools.

There were so many people in Newark in the thirties of the last century that the question of schooling became a more and more important one. Workmen who came here from other cities and towns complained that there were no good schools for their children. The free schools were not very

well managed, and the city authorities began to realize that they must pay more attention to educational matters. When Newark became a city a school committee was provided.

#### 69. The Board of Education.

In 1850 this school committee determined that still better schools must be had, so the Legislature was asked to make a law permitting Newark to spend more money for this purpose. The next year the Board of Education was established and then the city began to build school houses. It has never stopped building them since, and it probably never will. There are many more children in Newark's schools to-day than there were men, women and children in all the city in 1850. In 1916 nearly 65,000 pupils were on the public school rolls. Early in the fifties the High School was established at the corner of Linden and Washington streets. It was the second high school in the United States. Newark's summer schools were the first to be opened in the country.

#### 70. Overcoming an Old Idea.

But, as already said, it took a long time after this to get most of the people of the city to send their

children to the public schools. The old idea that it was something of a disgrace to go to a public or "common" school had taken very firm root, and did not die for many years. It is a very good thing that such ideas as this are gone forever.

In 1848 the Newark Library Association opened its doors. Since then it has been possible for Newark people to get books to read without buying them. The Library Association was a private concern, not owned by the city. It was not, however, conducted for the financial profit of its members, but for the intellectual benefit of the subscribers. Unless you were a member of the Association you had to pay something for every book you took out. This went on for forty years, when under a new law, the Free Public Library was started. Since then, if Newark people do not have books to read it is because they do not go to the library and ask for them.

### 71. **When the Passaic Was Beautiful.**

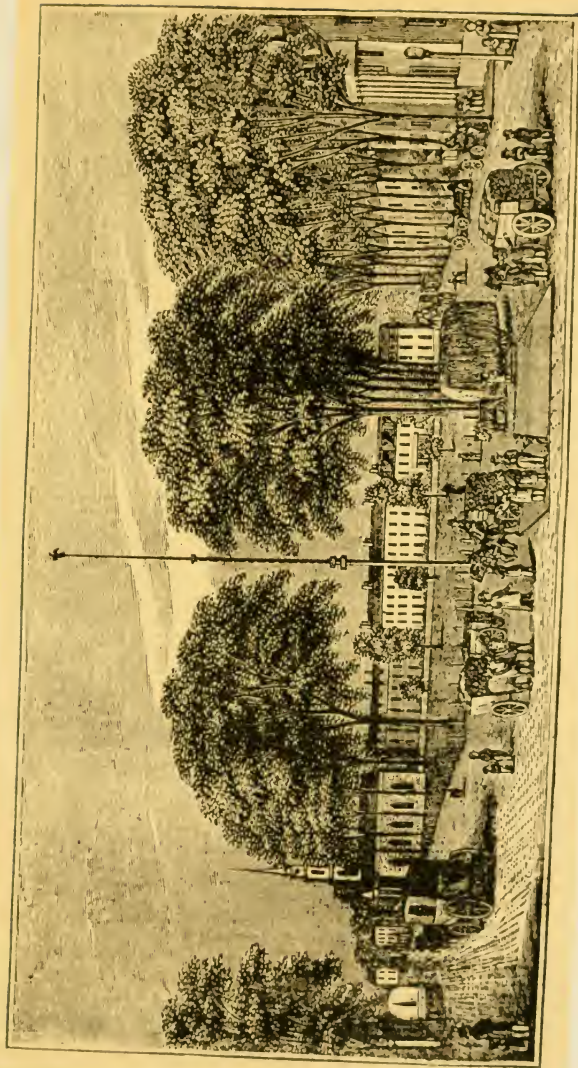
It is hard to-day to realize the rich and sylvan beauty of the Passaic river in the days when Newark was a small but busy city in the two decades before the Civil War. The banks were charming with their stretches of soft green, dotted here and there with groves and unrestrained undergrowth. Most

of the dwellings were the homes of prominent families. They were to be met with all the way from where Kearny Castle now is, on the east bank of the river, to the stretches opposite Belleville and beyond; while on the Newark side they were scattered along the hillside north from the neighborhood of Bridge street. The river was as clear as crystal. Many of the families living near the stream had their own little docks and boathouses and paid their visits to each other back and forth across the Passaic by means of boats. There was good fishing in the waters and good hunting in the woods along the banks. Fishermen made good catches of shad with nets. It was a charming, peaceful neighborhood, and it is no wonder people were attracted from New York City to build their houses on the banks of the Passaic, in Newark and further up, from the 1750's for a century and a quarter thereafter.

#### 72. Cockloft Hall.

About 1800 Gouverneur Kemble owned a stately mansion on the Newark side of the river. It stood at a commanding point on the river's bank, near what is now the northeast corner of Gouverneur street and Mt. Pleasant avenue.

It stands there still, although it is much changed.



"LOWER GREEN" OR "MILITARY COMMON," NOW KNOWN AS MILITARY PARK.

Hither came one of the most famous American writers of his time, Washington Irving, and with him John Paulding and others. Kemble used to entertain them in a pretty little summer house which stood on the edge of the hillside and overlooked the river. The young men—for Irving and his companions were young then—used to delight to look out upon the beautiful scene and enjoy themselves together. Irving was writing his *Salmagundi* papers at this time, and in them he calls the Gouverneur street house "Cockloft Hall," and the Kembles "the Cocklofts."

Forty years afterwards people living along the river formed a reading circle, influenced perhaps by the literary spirit which Irving's stay in the neighborhood had given the locality. They used to gather from far up and down stream for meetings of this circle. In those days the river neighborhood from Cockloft Hall northward was considered out of town, for houses were few and far apart.

Traces of the good old riverside days may be found by the observant stroller to-day (1916). A little of the old order of things invests what is still known as the Gully road, which runs along the northern edge of Mount Pleasant Cemetery. It was here that Henry William Herbert lived, at the north-



east corner of the present cemetery. He was known fifty years ago the country over as a writer, under the name of Frank N. Forrester.

There were many other people in the city in those days who loved good books, good pictures and good music, but they were split up into little companies like that along the river. They enjoyed those things among their own circles, while the city, as a whole, was too busy in its shops and factories to think much of the finer things or to spend time on books and pictures and music. Newark, from early in the last century, was little more than a great workshop until near the close of the nineteenth century. It was so busy with its shops and mills that it did not pay much attention to making itself neat and attractive. Nowadays we know that we must do something besides work; we must make our city something more than a huge factory. We can be better men and women and children, and happier, too, if our city is more beautiful to live in. And we are trying to make it so.

### **73. On the Eve of Civil War.**

The people of Newark, in common with most others living in this country, began, as early as 1860, to realize that a crisis in the affairs of the nation

was at hand. There had been many signs, for several years, that a very grave problem would soon have to be settled, but the people had continued to hope that in some way the difficulties between North and South might be adjusted without bloodshed. By the time of Abraham Lincoln's election to the Presidency, in the fall of 1860, thinking men and women wore solemn faces, and they often asked each other if this man whom the country had chosen to fill its highest office, were great enough to carry it through the dark days that were at hand.

Newark was privileged to see this man a few weeks before he took the oath of office as President. While on his way to Washington, Mr. Lincoln left his train at Morris and Essex station and attended a reception given him by the officers of the city government and the leading citizens. This was on February 21, 1861. Mr. Lincoln was driven down Broad street to Chestnut street depot during a heavy snow storm in a coach drawn by four white horses. One of those in the carriage with him was the illustrious Colonel Ellsworth, of the New York Zouaves, who was soon to be shot down while in the act of removing a Confederate flag from the staff of a hotel in Alexandria. The president-elect was greeted with great enthusiasm. The occasion was

described by a New York newspaper of the day in the following language:

“The scene in Broad street while the procession was passing was magnificent; although the crowd was great, the width of the street prevented any confusion, and this noble street, of which the people of Newark are justly proud, must have made a favorable impression upon the mind of Mr. Lincoln. There were not less than twenty-five thousand people in the streets. \* \* \* Altogether, the Newark reception reflected credit upon the city, and was, we predict, as agreeable an ovation as Mr. Lincoln has received since he commenced his pilgrimage to the White House.”

At the reception the Mayor of the city made an address of welcome to the distinguished visitor. Mr. Lincoln spoke a few words in reply. They were good words and were no doubt remembered by those who heard them, when the times of greatest stress and trial, which were then so near, actually arrived. They were as follows:

“Mr. Mayor, I thank you for this reception you have given me in your city. The only response I can make is that I will bring a heart similarly devoted to the Union. With my own ability I can not hope to succeed; I hope to be sustained by Divine

Providence in the work I have been called upon to perform for this great, free, happy and intelligent people. Without this I can not succeed. I thank you again for this kind reception."

From that day the majority of the Newark people never lost faith in "Old Abe." They did not forget what he had said about needing help. They responded unselfishly to his call for soldiers, and did all they could to help hold up his hands in the terrible days that were to come.

#### 74. A Great Public Meeting.

In the stormy hours just before the War for Independence, meetings of patriots were held in the Court House which was then a plain old building on Broad street nearly opposite the First Presbyterian Church. There, fiery speeches were made, and there were adopted the first resolutions passed in all New Jersey supporting Congress in its efforts to win independence. Ninety years afterwards the people of Newark were again summoned to give their aid in carrying on a great war, and once more patriots gathered at the Court House. This time the gathering was far larger than any of those held just before the War for Independence, too large to get into the Court House; so it assembled outside in a triangular



NORTHWEST CORNER OF MARKET AND BROAD STREETS, IN CIVIL WAR TIMES.

space at the junction of Market street and Springfield avenue. Nearly all of Newark's leading men were there, and many of them made patriotic addresses. Men said it was one of the most noteworthy gatherings they ever knew.

Newark was more united against the common foe than it had been during the War for Independence, for in Newark in 1776 there were many Tories. In mid-April, 1861, while the people were not unanimous in their support of the Union, the great majority were ready to make every sacrifice to support the constitution, and people of every race and religious creed and of every walk in life gathered at the great court house meeting.

The day after the great meeting Major Anderson, the gallant defender of Fort Sumter, came to Newark. He had intended to be present at the meeting, but had misunderstood the date. He was enthusiastically received, nearly the whole city turning out to greet and honor him.

#### 75. Newark's Southern Trade.

Ever since Southern planters early in the last century in journeying through Newark on their way to New York had noticed the fine shoes made here and had ordered some to be sent to them in their

Southern homes, Newark had been sending its manufactures into Dixie. For more than a half century it had been supplying the South with a large part of its shoes, for blacks and for whites, and had also been sending great quantities of carriages, harnesses and saddlery hardware to the same region. Many Newark manufacturers feared their business would be swept away by a war between North and South, and did not see where they were going to get other business. They opposed the war before it came, and it was some time after it began before they were reconciled to it. But once the war was well begun business came to Newark in the way of contracts for materials needed for the soldiers. Newark was a very busy place during the Civil War, for its factories were kept humming getting out vast quantities of leather belts, buckles, harnesses, saddles, shirts and cartridge boxes for the army; and boys and girls were set at work in the shops while their older sisters, mothers, aunts and the old folks took work home with them.

#### 76. **Going to the Front.**

The city became terribly in earnest over the war. It did not rest with simply making things, but sent many of its youths and men to the front to fight,

not a few of whom never came back. Boys scarcely out of school and some who had not completed their studies in the public schools, joined a regiment and put on the uniform.

For four long years Newark streets resounded to the tread of marching feet. Regiment after regiment was either recruited here or passed through this city on its way southward. Part of the time tents were stowing in Military Park and scores of young men went there to enlist. The park had been a training ground for the settlers nearly two hundred years before, when the men were required to assemble there and drill that they might be ready to fight the Indians should the savages become quarrelsome. Over its turf patriot soldiers and hostile redcoats marched during the War for Independence; and now, after nearly a century, it was again the place for warlike preparations.

### 77. Camp Frelinghuysen.

Many of the regiments formed in the northern part of the State were prepared for service at Camp Frelinghuysen. This camp was along the western edge of the Canal, from Orange street or thereabouts nearly to Bloomfield avenue. (The students of Barringer High School erected a tablet to indi-



cate the site, in Branch Brook Park on Memorial Day, 1912). Newark was then a very lively place. As the war went on the people came to know that the departure of a regiment was a very serious thing. At first they had looked upon the marching away of troops as a time for something like picnicking. Soon, however, as the accounts of battles came in and the long list of dead and wounded bore the names of many who had marched out of Newark, the faces that looked on departing troops were often stained with tears.

#### 78. War's Serious Side.

War had become a very serious and terrible thing. Mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers, who stood on the streets to wave good-by to their dear ones, often went home to pray for their safety. One Sunday morning a regiment about to go to war marched from Camp Frelinghuysen to Washington Park, where it rested as the people of the Second Presbyterian Church came out and bade it farewell. Before another Sunday came around that regiment had fought in a dreadful battle, Antietam, and many of its brave men had given their lives for their country on that bloody field.

The city could not separate itself from the great

struggle even if it would have done so. For a long period there was a hospital in a large factory building near the river, not far from the foot of Centre street and another just near the Market street bridge over the river. A public-spirited Newarker, Marcus L. Ward, afterward Governor of New Jersey, was responsible for their establishment. He was called "The Soldiers' Friend." Wounded soldiers were always to be seen about the streets, as the doctors made them seek light and air as soon as they were well enough to leave their cots.

#### 79. General Kearny.

Quite early in the war one of the most dashing heroes who went out of all the North into the fray, General Philip Kearny, was killed and his body brought here, to his home in what is now Kearny, Kearny Castle as we see it to-day looks very much as it did when the body of the hero was brought back to it and later taken from it for burial. General Kearny was born on lower Broadway, New York, where there are now nothing but skyscrapers. Much of his childhood and boyhood he passed in the Kearny house in this city, which until a few years ago stood on Belleville avenue nearly opposite Kearny street. The grounds behind the house

extended to the river's edge. When Kearny, a grown man, came back from his campaigns with the French in Algiers, his spirited horses were for a time kept in stables back of the Kearny house on Belleville avenue. Old men, most of them now dead, used to tell of seeing those mettlesome steeds galloping and curveting over the hillside where are now houses packed closely together. The local Board of Education, upon the completion of the Newark State Normal School on the site of the Kearny Homestead, in 1912, set up a tablet on the building to the memory of General Kearny. The general built what is now called Kearny Castle, in Kearny, a little while before the war and lived there part of the time. There were few houses on either side of the river, and as the general looked westward across the river from the castle he saw a delightful stretch of open country with here and there a comfortable farm house.

It was a beautiful place for a mansion, crowning the lower end of the long ridge on which Kearny and Arlington are now perched, and it is no wonder the general loved the neighborhood. A little farther up the ridge was the home of his aristocratic neighbors, the Rutherfurds. The Rutherford house is now the main building of the Soldiers' Home. In

that Home to-day are some of the brave men who fought in Kearny's brigade and who grew to love him for the brilliant and fearless leader that he was. On the day that Kearny's body was taken from the castle, to be buried in New York, from Trinity Church, it was borne on a gun carriage, and his war horse, with saddle empty, was led behind.

The cemeteries of Newark are thickly studded with the graves of brave soldiers and sailors who fought in that fearful four years' war. General Kearny's remains were, in 1913, removed to the National Cemetery at Arlington, Va.

#### 80. The First Horse Car Line.

Newark's first horse car line ran from the Market street depot of the Pennsylvania Railroad, up Market street to Broad, along Broad to Orange street and thence to Roseville and Orange. The company that built it was known as the Orange and Newark Horse Car Company. The first and trial trip over the line was made on May 23, 1862. On June 6 of the same year the cars began to run for the accommodation of the public and the sound of the car bell or gong has been heard in Newark streets, with steadily increasing volume, ever since. The town was much upset for a time after the cars

began to run, for many persons did not approve of their being used on Sundays. This prejudice died out, as many, many others had disappeared before it.

### 81. Newark's Drinking Water.

There are few cities in all the United States that have better drinking water than Newark. People from all parts of the country when they visit Newark speak of the excellence of the water, and often tell how inferior is the water they have to drink at home.

### 82. Old Wells and Reservoirs.

In the old days the settlers dug wells, and there are traces of some of these wells to be found around the city to this day. But they have not been used for drinking purposes for many a year. As long ago as 1800 Newark built reservoirs and the water was led from them to houses and other buildings through wooden water pipes laid in the streets. Now and then workmen digging in the streets find traces of these clumsy old pipes.

The first reservoir was on the north side of Orange street a few blocks above High street. Later the city built one on the heights of Belleville, pumping water to it from wells that were driven

close to the Passaic river. You can still see the pumping station on the river's edge in Belleville.

In the early eighties of the last century the people began to be troubled over their water supply. They could see that the sewage which was being poured into the river by all the cities and towns along the banks above Newark must sooner or later make the river water very foul and unfit to drink.

### 83. The Present Supply of Water.

After a very long time a new supply was found, in the beautiful country at the northern end of the State known as the Pequannock Valley. Our water is now brought from that valley nearly thirty miles through two big steel pipes, one of them four feet in diameter and the other about three and a half, either of them big enough for a small boy or girl to stand up in without bumping the head. The water rights, the pipes and all the other things necessary to bring the water to this city and take it through pipes into people's houses are worth ten million dollars. There is also a fine reservoir at Great Notch, north of Montclair, where water for Newark is brought from the Pequannock Valley and stored. And the people are thankful that, even if it did cost a large sum, their drinking water is pure

and good and abundant and brings no sickness to those who use it. Newark's holdings in the watershed are being increased as rapidly as possible, and everything that financial sagacity and engineering science can devise is being done to increase the supply of water and to keep it pure.

The purity of the water that Newark now enjoys was made a matter of record over a hundred years ago, when Alexander Hamilton sought to learn where the purest and softest water in all the States then established was to be had. Hamilton was Secretary of the Treasury at the time and deeply interested in promoting manufactures. Pure and soft water was said to be essential to the manufacture of the best leather, and Hamilton hoped to encourage leather making in this country by showing manufacturers where the streams best adapted for their purposes were located. So, under his direction, the Government employed a number of American and English chemists to go about over the entire area of the States, examining the streams. In the report made by the chemists it was found that the waters of the Pequannock watershed in this State were declared to be the purest.

#### **84. Street Lighting.**

Until after Newark became a city, in 1836, it had no street lights, and people out and about the town

after nightfall had to pick their steps very carefully. They often carried clumsy lanterns, made of tin or some other cheap metal, the light coming through holes punched in the tin. Tallow candles were chiefly used for lighting. Broad and Market streets and the space about Military Park must have looked strange with the people lighting their way along with lanterns, which glowed like so many fireflies.

### 85. The First Gas Light.

It was not until 1847 that anything like systematic street lighting was tried. In that year four miles of gas mains were laid in the principal streets and gas was burned here for the first time. People did not believe it was possible to make gas, send it through pipes in the earth to stores and houses, and then burn it. They thought the idea a foolish dream. When they saw the lights burning, however, they began slowly to realize that it was not the inventors, but they, who had been foolish in opposing so useful an invention. Of course, once it was shown that gas would burn and give what was then considered a great and glorious light, there was an urgent demand for more pipes in the streets and the mains were rapidly extended.



### 86. Edison in Newark.

"Almost everything is made in Newark that is made by man," wrote a visitor in the seventies. "Take a tour among the workshops and you will no longer wonder why Newark's banks never fail. There are prodigious manufactories of hats, silks, iron works, soap, tin, brushes, steam engines and so forth. The records of the Patent Office at Washington show that Newark has contributed more useful inventions to industrial progress than any other American city. In one year, 1873, upward of one hundred patents were issued to Newarkers alone."

"The making of telegraph instruments has been attended with important inventions," the visitor went on to say; "Thomas A. Edison, who originated the gold stock indicator used in Wall Street, made thirty-six hundred of them in Newark in three years, many of them being exported to Europe."

Edison did much of his experimenting upon electric lighting in Newark in a shop in Mechanic street. He invented the speaking part of the telephone in Newark and also the quadruplex telegraph. By this last device four messages may be sent over one wire at the same moment without interfering with each other. The first incandescent light was

made in Menlo Park shortly after Mr. Edison removed to Newark.

### 87. Edward Weston.

The whole United States, and in fact all the world, owes much to Newark for the development of the electric light. Mr. Edison, as has just been stated, made many of his experiments upon electric lighting in his Newark shop, and there was another genius working busily here on somewhat the same lines at about the same time. This was Edward Weston, whose great factories at Waverly are now familiar to railroad travelers passing eastward and westward in and out of the city. In the late seventies of the last century he came to Newark and soon had a workshop on Washington street very near to Market. There he and a few other men opened the first factory in all the country devoted to the making of dynamo-electric machines and similar apparatus. The business grew rapidly.

### 88. Making Electric Lighting Possible.

His machines took the place of all the older and far more costly apparatus. Then he improved electric lamps themselves, both arc and incandescent. He invented ways of making them that were much

less costly than any that had been employed before. It is not too much to say that Mr. Weston was one of the very first in all the world so to harness electricity as to make the light produced by it really of practical daily use at a moderate cost.

The world owes the photographic film to the genius of a Newarker, the Rev. Hannibal Goodwin, for many years rector of the House of Prayer. After years of patient toil in a little laboratory in the rectory, he perfected his great discovery, in 1887. Then followed many years of heartbreaking struggle for a patent, and later in the courts. It was not until 1914 that the Goodwin right to the invention was fully and finally established. Mr. Goodwin had been dead a dozen years. It was his invention that made motion pictures possible. Late in 1914 a tablet in Mr. Goodwin's memory was unveiled in the first floor corridor of the Newark Free Public Library by the Essex Camera Club and friends. Part of the inscription reads: "He fore-saw the possibilities of photography as an instrument in education and devoted his inventive talent to the improvement of that art."

Another Newarker who has his name indelibly inscribed on the roll of fame was the late John P. Holland, who died in Newark a few years ago. He

was one of the pioneers in the study of submarine navigation. His first submersible was built in 1875. His design was the first accepted by the United States Government, in 1900, after a long series of most severe and exacting tests.

### 89. Industrial Expositions.

Newark's industrial, commercial and mechanical achievements during the last half-century have been far too numerous and diversified to permit of even passing mention. As Newark's genius for manufacturing awakened into active and aggressive life soon after the War for Independence, so, at the conclusion of the Civil War the industries entered upon a new epoch of hitherto unprecedented prosperity. In 1872, a great industrial exposition was held here, in a huge building on the west side of Washington street, between Marshall and Court streets. It opened on August 20 and continued for fifty-two days, attracting vast throngs. Among the distinguished visitors were General U. S. Grant, and at an earlier date, Horace Greeley. The latter, in a speech, told of a visit to Newark in the early 1830's when it "was a smart, rather straggling but busy village on week days of about ten thousand inhabitants, one-twelfth of its present [1872] population.

and bearing about the same characteristics it does now."

The exposition proved a profound influence for the advancement of Newark's industrial welfare. Newarkers were apparently quite as surprised as visitors at the variety and volume of the community's manufactures. More than a generation was allowed to elapse before another exhibition on lines fittingly ambitious, was held, and that was in 1912, in May, in the First Regiment Armory. Another, in the spring of 1914, did not approach that of two years before in importance. Still another is now in the making as a feature of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary celebration.

The Newark Board of Trade was organized in Library Hall, in Market street, on February 24, 1868, and it has been a powerful factor in the promotion of Newark's material interests ever since. The United States census of 1910 showed Newark to be eleventh among the cities of the country in the aggregate value of its annual manufactured products. At the opening of 1916 it had more than 250 distinct lines of industry. This city ranks ahead of thirty states in the total value of its manufactured products.

Newark has long been peculiarly receptive to the

tenets and principles of organized labor. As early as 1804 a number of Newark shoemakers were members of a cordwainers' association which had its headquarters in New York. The earliest known labor union in Newark is the Hatters' Union, organized in 1844. The first movement of record for the centralization of labor interests came in 1881, when the Trades Assembly was organized. The Knights of Labor practically took the place of the Trades Assembly in 1882, and in 1890 the Central Labor Union displaced the Knights.

The growth in population, from the Civil War's end, shows an ever-increasing gain. In twenty-five years the city's population rose from 87,413 to 181,830, in 1890. In the next decade, the increase was about 65,000. Since 1900 Newark's population has increased over 130,000, the total now being over 375,000. These last figures, however, are now generally believed to be altogether too low. The Newark public school enrollment is now (February, 1916) fully 70,000. For years a close estimate of the city's total of population has been arrived at by multiplying the school enrollment by .601, which would make the population over 420,000. That it is not far from 400,000 is quite probable. Newark

now (1916) ranks fourteenth in population among the cities of the country.

### 90. Transportation.

The amazing development of the industries has, of course, been the prime factor in this phenomenal advance, but in this moment of our high prosperity we must not forget to pay our proper tribute to the sagacity of the founders, who by their shrewdness and prevision, so happily placed the community as to make its ultimate greatness only a matter of time. Closely supplementing the multiplication of factories and workshops has been the improvement in transportation. The horse cars, inaugurated in Civil War times, endured for about a quarter of a century, the steam railroad facilities being on the gain all through that period. Then came trolley cars, latterly the rapid transit line from Saybrook place to New York, and only, as one might say, the other day (in the spring of 1915), arrived the new factor, the jitney, whose future no man can satisfactorily predict.

But by far the most far-reaching evolution in the line of better traffic facilities in the "Greater Newark" section is the Public Service Terminal in Park Place. It permits of a comprehensive re-

routing of all the trolley lines, and is confidently expected to go a great way toward the elimination of congestion in the city's centre during the rush hours. The utilization of the bed of the Morris Canal for trolley service in and near Newark would also work material relief.

Tremendous has been the increase of street mileage since the Civil War. At the opening of 1916 Newark had nearly 302 miles of paved streets and fifty-six miles of ungraded and unpaved streets, with an average width of sixty feet. Since 1911 a City Plan Commission has been busily employed trying to evolve a consistent and far-seeing scheme for the harmonious development of the whole municipal scheme, paying some attention to similar suggestions for the entire county because of its close inter-relation with Newark. In its annual report, made public in January, 1916, this Commission makes many suggestions for the widening of many of the leading thoroughfares, for the extension of others and for the straightening of still others. The Commission, manifestly with an eye to the absorption by the city of several smaller municipalities along its borders, confidently predicts a population of one million by 1940. Thus we see Newark straining at its bounds, demanding more



freedom of movement, greater ease in going to and fro.

### 91. Port Newark Terminal.

The whole community looks forward to the actual utilization of the great Port Newark Terminal upon the edge of the Newark meadows upon which \$2,500,000 has already been spent. This great enterprise will go far to realizing the dreams of public spirited citizens for the last forty years—of a Newark port from and to which ocean-going vessels from all climes shall ply; one of the chief gateways of the country, giving access to the ports of all the known world.

The Passaic Valley Trunk Sewer, a factor for more healthful conditions of almost inestimable importance, should be virtually completed by the close of 1917.

It is stated on good authority that Newark, at the opening of 1916, had a greater park area (including both the city and the county recreation places within its borders) than any other city in the United States. There were at that time twenty city parks with a total area of a little under twenty acres; five county parks, of rare attractiveness and natural as well as artificial beauty, with a total of over 641

acres. The Essex County Park System is regarded by the nation's foremost experts as one of the most beautiful and most competently administered in the country.

## 92. Educational Advancement.

Newark's remarkable advancement in matters educational in the quarter of a century ending in 1916, deserves far more attention than is possible to devote to it here. It has over sixty public schools with some seventy thousand pupils, and parochial and other private schools with an estimated enrollment of 12,000. Its summer schools, which were the first to be established in any public school system in the country, long ago ceased to be little more than nurseries for young children, and now are properly graded with the work co-ordinated with that of the regular school year. Hundreds of children who close the school year failing of promotion now make up their deficiencies during the summer term, while other hundreds attain to a higher grade than that to which they were promoted. Newark's all-year schools, of which there are now three, make it possible for bright pupils to shorten the prescribed course in school by from one to three years. These schools

were the first of their kind to be established in the United States.

This city's two alternate-class schools (an adaptation of the Gary system contrived by the present city superintendent, Dr. A. B. Poland), which were created during the last few months of 1915, give every promise of becoming a powerful factor in school economy and in the enrichment of the school curricula. The rapid growth of the industrial and vocational trend is very apparent. The work of the classes for the foreign-born in the city's night schools is making for better citizenship. In fact, the evening schools, both elementary and secondary, are extending opportunities to thousands to fill up educational gaps caused by too early retirement from the day schools. Newark now has four high schools, with the immediate prospect of a fifth. It will shortly have a large boys' industrial school, and its recently established industrial school for girls has demonstrated its value in less than two years.

The demand for a Newark university, a sort of city college which shall extend the opportunities of higher education to young men and women of the neighborhood who can not afford to attend colleges and universities at a distance, is rapidly growing more insistent. There is every prospect as this vol-

time goes to press that the beginnings of a university (through the co-operation of New York University with the Newark Institute of Arts and Sciences), will be made in the fall of this, the city's anniversary year.

### 93. Approach of the "City Beautiful."

Many new influences working for the upbuilding of the Greater Newark, and for a genuine "City Beautiful," for a community far pleasanter to live in than ever before, are now apparent. Among these refining influences the Newark Free Public Library is to be reckoned as one of the most potent and far-reaching. Latterly the Newark Museum Association has become a potent force for improvement. The public school buildings erected during the last decade are infinitely more attractive, within and without, and vastly more comfortable and safe and sanitary than their predecessors.

The other public and semi-public edifices are modern, of graceful lines and, in not a few instances, architectural monuments. The city now has several works of art that are widely admired, and it may be confidently stated that the city's store of art treasures will be materially increased before the present year is over. The latest expression of this

sort is the promise of a gift to the city by Christian W. Feigenspan, of a full size copy in bronze of the noble equestrian statue of Bartolomeo Colleoni, set up in Venice in the fifteenth century and since then reckoned as one of the best (if not the best) equestrian statues in the world. The Newark copy will be the only one in metal in America. The reproduction of both statue and base is the work of J. Massey Rhind, of New York. The most striking original work of sculpture which Newark possesses, so far, is the statue of Lincoln, in front of the Essex County Court House, done by Gutzon Borglum. Mr. Rhind's statue of Washington, in Washington Park, is also greatly admired. These two objects of art were provided for by a loyal Newarker, the late Amos H. Van Horn. Ere long a third gift to the city from this public spirited citizen's estate will be erected, a monument to the soldiers and sailors of New Jersey, far more ambitious and costly than either of the others.

#### 94. *Mayors Since Civil War Times.*

Newark has had fourteen mayors (including the present incumbent, Thomas L. Raymond), since 1857, when Moses Bigelow, the "war mayor" began his first term. It was in his time that the term of

mayor was changed from one year to two. Mayor Bigelow was one of the city's ablest and most forceful chief magistrates. Although a Democrat, he was a staunch defender of the Union in those trying times. He was succeeded in 1864 by Theodore R. Runyon, afterwards Ambassador from the United States to Germany. He had served at the opening of the Rebellion as brigadier general in command of the First New Jersey Brigade. Thomas B. Peddie, a prosperous manufacturer, succeeded General Runyon, and in turn gave way to Frederick W. Ricord, who served faithfully until 1874. Nehemiah Perry, at one time in the House of Representatives, taking his place. In 1876 Henry J. Yates took up the office, and then came William H. F. Fiedler, in 1880. Mr. Fiedler represented the growing liberal movement which had been waging a vigorous campaign for years against what its advocates believed to be narrow and intolerant—not to say Puritanical—methods of government, particularly with regard to Sunday observance. Later Mr. Fiedler was sent to Congress and after that was appointed Postmaster of Newark.

It was said, in 1878, that more than forty of the families of the founders were still represented in Newark or in neighboring communities, and that

the descendants of the settlers still exercised a controlling influence over the "general habits, customs, character and government of the community, even though it now includes in its population of 120,000 about 70,000 inhabitants either born in foreign lands or of foreign parentage. The remainder of the population includes thousands of inhabitants who came hither from other states, so that of those whose forefathers founded Newark the number here is comparatively small, probably not more than from eight to ten thousand."

The trend toward a cosmopolitan population began to show itself more pronouncedly than ever soon after the close of the Civil War. Then a few Italians came and took up with the laboring work which had previously been done largely by the Irish and Germans.

#### 95. A Cosmopolitan Population.

The federal census of 1910 gave us a graphic glimpse of how swiftly the old time racial conditions in Newark are changing. During the decade, 1900-1910 the proportion of white foreign-born or of foreign parentage increased from 68.1 per cent. to an even 70 per cent., meaning that of Newark's then 347,469 inhabitants in 1910, no less than 243,-

000 were either foreign-born or of foreign parentage. During that same decade the German and Irish foreign-born or of foreign parentage decreased—the Germans from 25,139 to 22,177; the Irish from 12,742 to 11,225. On the other hand, the Italians increased from 8,537 to 20,493; and the Russians from 5,511 to 21,912. The number of Greeks, as well as Lithuanians, Ruthenians, Poles, Bohemians and many other European people has mounted up very rapidly in the last ten years.

#### 96. Mayor Haynes and the Water Supply.

Henry Lang succeeded Mayor Fiedler, in 1882 and in 1884 gave up the office to Joseph E. Haynes, who had for many years served as the principal of Morton Street School. He served for ten years and in the last years of his life was Postmaster of the city. The city's latter-day prosperity really began in Mayor Haynes' régime. His greatest achievement was the establishment of the city's great water supply system, for which he worked with tireless energy and far-seeing persistence.

It was during the administration of Julius A. Lebkuecher, who succeeded Mayor Haynes, that more attention began to be paid to the city's physical appearance. He was an enthusiast for city and



county parks, while at the same time being an ardent advocate for the introduction of business methods into the conduct of civic affairs.

### 97. The Spanish-American War.

Mayor James M. Seymour (1896-1903), was a pioneer in the movement for the abolishment of steam railroad grade crossings and a vigorous promoter of the "Greater Newark" idea. It was during his régime that the Spanish-American War (1898) came. Newark responded to the call to arms with alacrity. The First Regiment, New Jersey National, recruited almost entirely in this city, volunteered in a body. It left the city for its first camp, at Sea Girt, on May 2, and on May 21 took up its station at Camp Alger, Va. At one time it was almost on the point of moving south in order to take transport for Cuba, when the disappointing news came that the Seventy-first New York regiment had been chosen in its stead. Five members of the First New Jersey died of disease while in service. The regiment returned to Newark on September 26, 1898.

The Second Division, New Jersey Naval Reserves, First Battalion, nearly all of whose members were Newarkers, served on the auxiliary cruiser *Badger*,

from May 21 to October 6, 1898, when the *Badger's* crew was honorably discharged at Philadelphia, on October 6, 1898. It lost one man, who fell from the masthead to the deck, dying shortly after. The *Badger* captured three prize vessels, two of them carrying nearly five hundred Spanish soldiers. One ensign of the Newark division and five men, were detailed to the *Resolute*, which at one time acted as a despatch boat. It carried the news to Admiral Sampson that Admiral Cervera and his fleet were coming out of Santiago harbor.

Several Newarkers served in the regular army and navy during the Spanish-American War and a number subsequently enlisted for service in the Philippines. One of the very first American soldiers to fall in the Filipino insurrection, in 1899, was Ralph Wilson Simonds, a graduate of Barringer High School and for a time a student at Princeton.

#### 98. Band Concerts—Playgrounds—Meadow Reclamation.

Henry M. Doremus (1903-1907) succeeded Mayor Seymour. The present City Hall was begun in Mayor Seymour's day and finished in that of Mayor Doremus. He was responsible for a number of important innovations, including free band con-

certs and free excursions for poor children. Out of the last mentioned grew, indirectly, the city playground system, of which William J. McKiernan is truthfully regarded as the "father." Mayor Doremus worked for the removal of poles and overhead wires from the city streets. He kept up the crusade begun by Mayor Seymour for the abolishment of grade crossings. He was instrumental in having a civil service system introduced in the police and fire departments. Jacob Haussling (1907-1915) succeeded Mayor Doremus. It was in this period that the Newark meadows development and the dock and ship canal enterprises were pushed rapidly forward.

#### 99. 1916 Celebration Preparations.

It was in his administration also that the preparations for the celebration of Newark's two hundred and fiftieth anniversary were begun and carried forward. He appointed the Committee of one Hundred, which had charge of the festival. His successor, the present incumbent, was elected in 1915.

Newark has borne its full share of the present war shock and the financial and industrial depression, and would seem to be coming steadily out from beneath these handicaps to its remarkable

progress and increase in prosperity. In the fall of 1915 better times began to dawn, and there has been unmistakable improvement ever since.

The city faces many problems of considerable magnitude with a greater and prosperous future assured, nevertheless. Among the leading features or questions before the municipality, are: The Americanization of the large throngs of immigrants, the further advancement of meadows reclamation, the deepening of the Passaic River channel, the completion of the Passaic Valley trunk sewer, the further relief of traffic congestion, the construction of subways, the widening of some of the more important thoroughfares in the city's centre, the abandonment of the Morris Canal within the city limits, at least, and the establishment of a high speed railroad line in its bed, the enlargement of the Newark watershed area, the adoption of a new city charter, the systematic development of city planning, and the advancement of the Greater Newark plan so as to embrace more and more of Essex County and possibly of West Hudson.

#### 100. Newark, Mother of Towns.

Newark is essentially "Mother of Towns." The founders soon acquired practically all of what is

now Essex County. Newark's people gradually worked their way out from the parent village and established one new community after another, occasionally with the help of the people of Elizabethtown. Now all of Essex County is being covered with buildings. The various municipal boundaries are artificial; physically, Essex is becoming one great community. With the passing of the two hundred and fiftieth year, Newark enters upon a new order of existence. Never since the earliest days has there been so potent a community spirit afoot. It is the duty of every good citizen to assist in fostering this.

With entire unity of effort for the common good, no man can attempt to forecast to what heights of greatness, dignity and power, this city and county may attain in the next quarter of a century.



**HISTORIC SPOTS  
IN NEWARK**





## HISTORIC SPOTS IN NEWARK

Academy, Newark; Sites of. First building erected prior to 1775, at the southern end of Washington Park, nearly opposite the end of Halsey street. Destroyed by the British soldiers on the night of January 25, 1780. Never rebuilt. Next Academy building erected on the north corner of Broad and Academy streets, in 1792. Property sold to the United States Government in 1855 for Post Office. Property at corner of High and William streets purchased for Academy purposes in 1857.

Alling house; Site of. Residence of David Alling built by him about 1790, on Broad street opposite William, on the site of the present Kremlin building. Talleyrand lived there for a time, about 1795. There is a tradition that Chateaubriand worked upon his "Genius of Christianity" while there.

Bank, first in Newark; Site of. National Newark Banking Company, one of the two pioneer banking institutions in the State, chartered in 1804, located on the north corner of Bank and Broad streets a year later.

Boudinot house. On Park place about a hundred yards south of East Park street. The building was torn down to make room for the Public Service Terminal Building. Lafayette was entertained there in September, 1824, a room having been especially furnished for his entertainment, although he remained here but a few hours, coming from Jersey City and passing the night in Elizabeth. Immediately west of the Boudinot house, in Military Park, a pavilion had been erected where Lafayette received the people, who had come from all parts of the State to do him honor.

Boyden, Seth; He discovered the process by which malleable iron is made, on July 4, 1826, the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, in his foundry on the east side of Broad street a few doors north of Bridge street. He made the first patent leather in America in a shop on the north side of Bridge street. In his shop at High and Orange streets he made several locomotives.

Bridge, first across Passaic in Newark; Site of. It stood about where the present Bridge street bridge now is. It was finished early in 1795.

Camp homestead; Site of. Residence of Capt. Nathaniel Camp before and during War for Independence. Situated at the corner of Broad and Camp

streets. Washington was entertained there several times when he visited Newark during the encampments at Morristown.

"Cedars," The; Site of. The hermit-like home of Henry William Herbert, an author. His home was located in the woods on the bank of the Passaic, close to what is still called the Gully Road, and within the confines of what is now known as Mt. Pleasant Cemetery. Herbert was known in literature as "Frank Forester," and was the first writer of importance in this country on sports and out-door subjects. He also wrote on French and English history and made some excellent translations from the works of the elder Dumas and Eugene Sue. He died in 1858. His grave is in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.

Centre street; Foot of. Here, on the river front, was located one of the two hospitals for soldiers during the Civil War. There was another soldiers' hospital farther down the river bank, not far from the Market street bridge. The first railroad running from Newark to Jersey City crossed the Passaic river at Centre street.

City Hotel; Site of. Structure occupied for many years as the City Hall, on the north corner of Broad and William streets, was previously the City, or

Thompson's Hotel. Once you could take a railroad train from its doors, and ride up Broad, down Market around to Centre street, and thus on to Jersey City.

Cockloft Hall. On the northeast corner of Gouverneur street and Mt. Pleasant avenue. Part of the structure was standing during the War for Independence. Quite early in the last century the house then owned by Gouverneur Kemble, was a frequent rendezvous of the famous American author, Washington Irving, and John Paulding and other young literary men of New York, who came "out to the country" to find quiet and change, and found them there.

College of New Jersey, now Princeton, founded in Elizabethtown in 1757 and removed to Newark the same year. It is believed that most of the college exercises were held in the Second Church building, and which stood on the eastern edge of the Old Burying Ground, perhaps a little north of Branford place. The first commencement of this college was held here. Some of the classes gathered in the Parsonage of Dr. Aaron Burr, the second president, on the south side of William and Broad streets.

Court House and Jail; Site of. The first jail stood on Broad street on the eastern edge of the Old

Burying Ground not far from the first Court House, which was a little south of Branford place. This was the building in which the patriots of Essex County met in 1774 to protest against the King's tyranny and to call on Governor Franklin to select delegates to the first Continental Congress, that was soon to meet. In 1810 a new Court House and Jail, a three-story stone structure with cells in the cellar, was built at the corner of Walnut and Broad streets, where Grace Episcopal Church now stands. It was burned down in 1835.

Divident Hill; In Weequahic Park. Here the settlers of Elizabethtown and of Newark, on May 20, 1668, assembled and solemnly fixed upon the hill as the point from which to run the dividing line between the two communities. Bound Creek (called by the Indians Weequahic and now preserved in Weequahic Lake), was the boundary between the territory of the Hackensack and Raritan Indians.

Early settlers; Monument to. In Fairmount Cemetery. Beneath it the bones of many of the first settlers, which were removed from the Old Burying Ground in the late eighties of the last century, now rest. Ever since, more bones of the town's forefathers are occasionally uncovered during excavation for cellars and foundations of new buildings.

First Church; Site of. Original meeting house of settlers stood on eastern edge of Old Burying Ground fronting on what is now Broad street, a little south of Branford place. Its present successor, the First Presbyterian Church, was begun in 1787 and finished in 1791.

"Four Corners." The founders started their village at the point where Market and Broad streets now cross. The settlers came from four towns in Connecticut and those from each town took a corner from which to start laying out their home lots.

Frog pond; Site of. A small body of water located at the southwest corner of Market and Broad streets, when the settlers came. It was not entirely obliterated for upwards of a century.

House of Prayer; Broad and State streets. Here the Rev. Hannibal Goodwin invented the photographic film.

Iron foundry; Site of. First iron foundry in Newark was on the site of the Second Presbyterian Church, on the north corner of James and Washington streets.

Kearny homestead. House where Major-General Philip Kearny spent most of his boyhood and early years. Stood on east side of Belleville avenue,

opposite Kearny street, where the State Normal School now is. When young Kearny lived in the homestead early in the last century the estate extended all the way to the river and for a considerable distance up and down the banks.

Library Hall; Site of. Stood on north side of Market street about a hundred yards west of Broad street. Many prominent actors, musicians and lecturers appeared there during the sixties, seventies and early eighties of the last century.

Machinery Hall. On corner of Marshall and Washington streets. Was built for Newark's great industrial exhibition which was held in 1872. General Grant and Horace Greely attended it.

Market place; Site of. What is now Washington Park was set aside as a market place by the settlers soon after they came.

Market street. That part of it which lies between the Court House and the Pennsylvania railroad was probably an Indian footpath, following quite closely a bank of the stream that ran down the hillside into the marshes.

Mill, first grist; Site of. It stood on the bank of a stream, known as "Mill Brook," near the north corner of High and Clay streets.

Military Hall. At 199, 201 Market street, three

upper floors. Here recruits were sometimes drilled during the Civil War, and according to one tradition, during the Mexican War also.

Old Burying Ground; Site of. Was located immediately back of the first church, extended westward toward what is now Halsey street, nearly to what is now William street on the south, and to the ponds which were close to Market street on the north. Other historic burying grounds are that of the present First Presbyterian Church, situated at the south side and on the rear; and that of Trinity Church in Rector street.

Park House; Site of. On the east side of Park place opposite southern end of Military Park. Many eminent persons stopped there during the last century. Henry Clay made an address from the steps, November 20, 1833.

Parsonage; Site of. Home of several ministers of the First Church in the eighteenth century. Located at corner of Broad and William streets, a little south of William street and setting back perhaps fifty feet from Broad. Aaron Burr, third vice-president of the United States, and son of the Rev. Aaron Burr, second president of the College of New Jersey, was born there in 1756. During War for Independence guards were sometimes posted near



the door to warn the pastor, Rev. Dr. Macwhorter, of approach of British who sought to capture him.

Quarries; Site of. The stone quarries of Newark which were worked for nearly, if not quite, two hundred years, were principally located along and near the line of Clifton avenue, from the north side of Bloomfield avenue nearly to Orange street. There was a very ancient quarry on the north side of Bloomfield avenue a little west of Belleville avenue.

School, first town (pay); Site of. Stood on the south side of Market street, about fifty yards east of Halsey street.

School, first free school for apprentices, and one of the first attempts in the entire country to establish what are now known as trade schools, was started by Moses Combs, shoe manufacturer, on Market street, south side, near Plane street.

Stone bridge. Bridge over "Mill Brook," a little south of where Broad street and Belleville avenue join.

Tablet, laid on July 4, 1826, in commemoration of the signing of the Declaration of Independence at lower end of Military Park. Recently restored and now protected with a railing. It was proposed at the time of its dedication to raise a monument on this stone, to be called the "Semi-Centennial Monu-

ment." It would have cost a large sum of money had it been erected as planned. No funds were ever raised.

Tannery; Site of first. On the south side of Market street, a hundred yards or so below what is now the Court House plaza. The water used there came from the stream that fed the Watering Place.

Tavern, Rising Sun; Site of. On bluff overlooking river, near where Public Service Corporation power house now stands, a little above Market street bridge. St. John's Lodge of Free Masons held some of its meetings there as early as 1761.

Town pump; Site of. Stood for over a century and a half in the centre of the open space at the four corners of Market and Broad streets.

Training ground; Site of. Military Park was set aside by the settlers as a training ground for all the able-bodied men of the town, who on appointed days assembled there to go through military drills, to have their weapons inspected, and to improve their marksmanship, so as to be prepared for any attack of the Indians. For the first few years the first training place was in the Old Burying Ground plot.

Trinity Church. The second church congregation to be established in Newark. Present edifice stands on site of original building erected in 1743.

44. In the first building many of the patriots wounded in the battle of Long Island in 1776, were cared for, the edifice being converted into a hospital. The picture illustrating this episode, given in this book, shows the original church as it is depicted in an old drawing. Washington, Lord Stirling and other patriot leaders attended service in the original edifice, and the base of the present church spire is part of the first structure. The corner stone for the present church was laid in May, 1809.

Watering place; Site of. The founders set aside a small plot of land at the point where Springfield avenue and Market street now come together, as a place to water cattle and horses.



# INDEX

Academy founded, xx, xxi; burned, xxi, 62, 75; com- mon council meeting in, xxvii; used as barracks, 64; rebuilt, 76; sites....	161	Blennerhasset in Newark.	96
Adams, President John, in Newark .....	xxxii	Bloomfield Township created .....	xxxv
Alling house site.....	161	Board of Education estab- lished, 116; small board.	xxxiii
All-year schools.....	146	Board of Trade, <i>see</i> New- ark Board of Trade.	
Alternate-class schools....	147	Boat manufacture, 86; <i>see</i> <i>also</i> Shoes.	
Alms House erected, xxviii; new, at South Orange...	xxxiv	Boudinot, Elisha, house, 96; site .....	162
Ambulance, first automobile	xxxiii	Bound Creek .....	165
American Insurance Co. in- corporated .....	xxviii	Boundaries between Eliza- bethtown and Newark...	xvii
Americanization of immi- grants, problem of the fu- ture .....	156	Boyden, Seth, inventor, 91- 93; illustration, 70; first patent leather, xxiv; pro- cess for malleable iron, xxv; sites of shops, 162; statue unveiled .....	xxxii, 90
Anderson, Major, in New- ark .....	126	Boyden Monument Associa- tion organized .....	xxxii
Andros, governor of New York .....	xix	Boys' Lodging House and Children's Aid Society organized .....	xxxii
Antietam, Newark regiment at .....	129	Brainerd, David, missionary to Indians .....	50
Aqueduct Board, <i>see</i> New- ark Aqueduct Board.		Branford, Conn., settlers from .....	10, 29
Aqueduct Company, con- tract with .....	xxviii	Breweries .....	93
Aqueducts .....	xxxii	Bridge, first across Passaic, site .....	162
Arc lamps .....	xxxii, 138	Bridge Street, 38; north boundary .....	75
Architecture of buildings, improvement in .....	148	Bridges, first, over Passaic and Hackensack.....	xxi, 77
Arion Singing Society or- ganized .....	xxx	British outrages denounced, xxiii; soldiers in Newark	55
Art works in Newark.....	148	Broad and Market Streets in 1800, 76; northwest corner in civil war times, illustration, 125; <i>see also</i> Four Corners.	
<i>Budger</i> , cruiser .....	153, 154	Broad Street laid out, 38; in 1800, 80; south from Market Street 1825, illus- tration .....	84
Band concerts started.....	154	Brooks and streams.....	20, 21
Band of music, first.....	xxii	Brownstone quarries .....	89
Bank, first, xxiii; site.....	161	Buildings numbered.....	xxvi
Baptist Church, <i>see</i> First Baptist Church.		Burlington, N. J., site ex- amined by early settlers.	10
Bath house, first recorded.	xxv	Burnet, Dr. William, hospi- tal system .....	68
Bayonne farms .....	6	"Burning Day," 32; illustra- tion .....	31
Beer brewing .....	93		
Belleville pumping station.	134		
Belleville Township created	xxxv		
Berckel, Peter van, in New- ark .....	96		
Bergen, first Dutch church at .....	29		
Bergen Point, Dutch vil- lage .....	6		
Bi-Centennial celebration 1866 .....	xxxii		
Bigelow, Moses, war mayor	149		
Bill of sale by Indians.....	19		



- Crane, Azariah first tanner.  
xix, 37
- Crane, Jasper ..... 37
- Curtiss, John ..... xix
- Daily Advertiser* established xxv
- Declaration of Independence, early celebration, xxi; fiftieth anniversary, xxv, 92
- Delaware River settlements 3
- Dental clinics established.. xxxiii
- Dickinson, Rev. Jonathan, head of College of N. J... 48
- Dispensary, city, in Centre Market ..... xxxi
- Divident Hill, xvii; location 165
- Docks on meadows..... 145
- Doremus, Henry M., mayor 154
- Drawing school established xxxii
- Dutch Reformed Church, first, established..... xxvi
- Dutch rule ended..... 9
- Dutch settlement at Manhattan ..... 6
- Dutch West India Company ..... 8
- Dwellings, number in 1777 and 1832, 94; in 1845... 111
- Dye making ..... 37
- Early settlers monument, *see* Puritan monument.
- East Back Street..... 81
- East New Jersey Lords Proprietors, grant by... xix
- East Orange Township created ..... xxxv
- East Ward ..... 103
- "Edge Pillocks," name of Indian reservation .... 26
- Edison, Thomas A., in Newark ..... 137
- Education, *see* Board of Education. Schools, John Catlin, Moses Combs.
- Electric Lamp manufacture 138
- Electric lighting ..... 138
- Electric street cars..... xxxii
- Electricity experiments of Boyden ..... 92
- Elizabethtown ..... 3, 9, 15
- Ellsworth, Colonel, in Newark ..... 122
- English adventurers in New Jersey ..... 12
- English take Manhattan... 9
- Essex County, 19; as "Greater Newark" ..... 157
- Essex County Hospital organized ..... xxxi
- Essex County Park system established, xxxii, 146; *see also* Parks.
- Evelyn, letter about New Jersey ..... 12
- Evening News* established. xxxii
- Evening schools established xxix
- Exports, early mention... xxvi
- Eye and Ear Infirmary incorporated ..... xxxii
- Factories, number in 1836. 107
- Fairmount Cemetery incorporated, xxix; bones removed to, from Old Burying Ground, xxxii, 33; Puritan monument..... 33
- Fairmount Township created ..... xxxv
- Farm in Mulberry Street in 1815 ..... 82
- Feigenspan, Christian W., gift of Colleoni equestrian statue ..... 149
- Female Charitable Aid Society organized ..... xxxiii
- Fiedler, William H. F., mayor ..... 160
- Fire department established, 114; in 1837..... xxvii
- Fire engines, steam, introduced, xxx; automobile, first, ..... xxxiii
- Fire fighting in early days, 111, 112
- Fire tower used..... xxx
- Firemen's Insurance Co., incorporated, xxix; new building completed .... xxxiv
- Fires, disastrous, xxxiv, 113, 114
- First Baptist Church established ..... xxiii
- First church, *see* First Presbyterian Church.
- First Dutch Reformed Church established..... xxvi
- First Presbyterian Church, xxi, 29; joint meetings in, xxiv; fortified, 26; as meeting house, 30; originally Congregational, 48; hospital in Revolution, 68; to present location, 80; parsonage, 80; site..... 160
- First regiment in Spanish-American war ..... 153
- Flour mills ..... 90

Townsend, Frank, see Her- bert, Henry William		Hamilton, Alexander, his interest in water supply	121
Founders of Newark	1	Dand engines	111
Foundries	91	Dancing, first recorded	100
"Four C's" (1822-1823)		Dand times of 1827	116
sketches of, 63; (1822-1823), 100; center of city	106	Dut making	100, 92
"Four Traits"	24	Hatters' Union	142
Franklin, Governor, protests against	11	Hausling, Jacob, mayor	111
Franklin Township created	1825	Haynes, Joseph E., mayor	152
Free Public Library incor- porated, 1821; 1822; in honors of	148	Health Board, new building erected	188, 189
Friedrichsberg, Camp, 1821; tablet erected	148	Hebrew Aid Society organ- ized	138
Friedrichsberg, Theodore, Captain of volunteers	107	Hebrew Orphan Asylum opened	188, 189
Frog pond, 1825	148	Hedden, Foster, J. C. B. B., his participation of, 64; illustrations	64
Future problems of the city	118	Herbert, Henry William, home of	161
G. A. R. Post No. 1 organ- ized	1821	Hessians in the Revolution	78
Gas light, first	120	High School, first	175
General Assembly, first	100	High Street and westward in 1825	81
German Hospital incorpo- rated	1800	Hill section in 1825	81
German life in Newark	100	Hindale, Ephraim	161
German settlers, early, 100; political refugees	100	Hissens, seats in Newark, 161	161
German Protestant Church, first	1821	Hoboken farms	2
Gifford, Archer, 1825, 26, 27, 79		Holland, birth of allegiance to	161
Ginsberg, Rev. Hannibal in- vited; of photography Bldg., 125, 126; tablet to Public Library	129	Holland, John P., inventor of submarine	120
Government Street	118	Homes for the Friendless or aged	180
Grade crossing abolishment, 1825	101	Homes, early ones, 26; site of	100
Grant, Gen. U. S., in New- ark	1821, 96	Hemorrhagic Medical Union organized	188, 189
Great North, Middlesex, streets	114	Homes, early	125, 142
"Greater Newark" (1821-1822)	157	Hospital, factory used as	121
Greenley, Hooper, in Newark	140	Hospital in Revolution, 1821	161
Green Street German Amer- ican School	1826	Hospitals, see Names	
Grove Mill, first	1821	Hutch, early	188, 190
Guiford, Camp, home of early settlers	10	Human of Prayer, Association	180
Gully road	120	Hurons, early, how built	20
Hackensack River, in 1825, 26; Middlesex	11	Hudson, Henry, exploring Newark Bay, illustration	4
Hackensack River, bridge, 1821	11	Hudson River settlements	5
Halsey, William	11	"Hudson and the Hurons" 1825	17
maps, 1821; portrait	112	Unauthorized jumps	121
		Unincorporated state	188, 189
		Independence Day, first celebration in Newark, 1776, 1825	42
		Indian Am. last of the Local Language	46



- Indian reservation in Burlington County ..... 26  
 Indian trails and paths... 5, 42  
 Indian wars in Connecticut, Robert Treat and..... 44, 45  
 Indians, 3, 6, 16, 25; early trouble with, xviii; payment made to, 17; attacks guarded against. 32, 33, 47  
 Industrial exhibition, 1872, xxxi, 140; 1912, 141; 1914 141  
 Industrial parade, early... xxi, 72  
 Industries, 71, 72, 85; *see also* Business.  
 Irish settlers, early..... 108, 109  
 Iron foundries, 90; site of first ..... 166  
 Iron, malleable, process discovered by Boyden... xxv  
 Irving, Washington, at "Cockloft Hall" ..... 120, 164  
 Jackson, President Andrew, in Newark ..... xxvi, 96  
 Jail, early location, 80; various sites..... 164, 165  
 Jefferson, President Thomas, protest sent to..... xxiii  
 Jersey City farms..... 6  
 Jewelry manufacture..... xxiii, 93  
 Jewish Synagogue, first established ..... xxix  
 Jitney buses ..... 143  
 Johnson, Aaron, poor house farm ..... xxiv  
 Johnson, Thomas, town drummer, 33; first hotel xvii  
 Jones, William, hanging of. xxi  
 July Fourth celebration, 1788, xxi; 1826..... xxv, 92  
 Kearny Castle..... 118, 131  
 Kearny homestead, 130; site, 166; tablet on site... 131  
 Kearny monument unveiled xxxii  
 Kearny, Gen. Philip.... 130-132  
 Kemble, Gouverneur, home, 118, 164  
 Knights of Labor..... 142  
 Kossuth, Louis, in Newark. 96  
 Krueger Home for Aged organized ..... xxxii  
 Lafayette in Newark.... 96, 162  
 Lang, Henry, mayor..... 152  
 Leather industry, 86, 93, 135; first patent leather, xxiv, 91  
 Lebkuecher, Julius A., mayor ..... 152  
 Lee, Gen. Charles, failure to cooperate with Gen. Washington ..... 58  
 Lenni Lenape Indians, 25; removal to Michigan... 26  
 Libraries, *see* Free Public Library, Newark Library Association, New Jersey Historical Society.  
 Library Hall, site..... 167  
 Lighting, street, 135, 136; with oil lamps..... xxvii  
 Lightning cause discovered by Boyden ..... 92  
 Lincoln, President Abraham, in Newark. xxx, 96, 122-124  
 Lincoln monument, gift of Amos H. Van Horn. xxxiv, 140  
 Lincoln Park, xxiv; south boundary of city ..... 75  
 Livingston Township created xxxv  
 Lombardy Park ..... xxiv  
 Lords Proprietors, grant by "Lower Green," Military Park, illustration..... 110  
 McClellan, Gen. George B., in Newark ..... xxxii, 96  
 Machinery Hall, location... 167  
 McKiernan, William J., and playgrounds ..... 155  
 Macwhorter, Rev. Alexander, 56, 80; portrait, 57; death ..... xxiii  
 Magistrates chosen ..... xvii  
 Mail coach stopped on Sunday ..... 83  
 Malleable iron made by Seth Boyden ..... 91, 92  
 Manhattan and Hudson Tube terminal opened... xxxiv  
 Manhattan taken by English 9  
 Manufactures in U. S., rank of Newark..... 141  
 Market building erected... xxix  
 Market place, Washington Park, 40; site..... 167  
 Market Street an Indian footpath, 167; 1st from Mulberry Street 1800; illustration ... 74  
 Marshes, early, 21; filling in, 33; *see also* Meadows.  
 Mayflower, attempt to reach the Delaware ..... 10, 11  
 Mayors since Civil War... 149  
 Meadow clamation, 33, 145, ; problem of the future ..... 156

Meeting house built, 1802		N. J. Iron Working establishment	1800
Invited against Indians, 1800; first church on	28	N. J. Historical Society incorporated	1800
Methodist Episcopal Church, first	1800	N. J. House for Disabled Soldiers organized on Seventh Avenue, 1800; Mulford house, Kenney, part of present site	1801
Millers' Canal, house of early settlers	19	N. J. Naval Reserve for Spanish-American war	1811
Military Hall, location	181	N. J. Railroad and Transportation Co.	1831
Military school	24	N. J. State Association Baseball Players Organized	1890
Military Park, site; 77; training class, 1st, 1791; early practice	119	New York, purchase in Dutch	1614
Milk Branch	11, 99, 107	Newark and the Revolutionary War, 1796; the village in 1800, 23; from the Passaic at Night, illustration, 100; incorporated 1808, 102; 1801 war 11, 12, 13, 14, 15; the "Mother of Towns" 126, 117	
Milk, first great, site	107	Newark Academy, for Academy	1800
Millburn Township created	1889	Newark Aqueduct tunnel created	1800
Mills	99	Newark Banking and Ironworks Co. established	1800
Minerstown	84, 85	Newark Board of Trade organized	1800, 141
Mohican Indians, removal to Michigan	28	Newark Catholic Institute incorporated	1808
Morris Canal, created, 1800; abandoned, problems of the future	152	Newark City Home established	1800
Morris Canal Company for milk water	1881	Newark City Hospital organized	1800
Morris Canal, Washington at	79	Newark-Corbin Plank Road Co. incorporated	1800
Mr. Pharaoh Gamble incorporated	1800	Newark District Telegraph Co. organized	1800
Mulberry Street, name 1800; 111 known as East Back Street, 80; in 1811	71	Newark Fire Insurance Co. incorporated	1807
Municipal Bureau of Statistical Information, vehicle	1800	Newark Gas Light Co.	1800
Municipal Employment Bureau established	1800	Newark Institute of Arts and Sciences	1818
Municipal lighting plant	1800	Newark Library Association chartered	1800, 117
Museum, see Newark Museum Association		Newark Medical Association organized	1800
Moon, based, 1800	100	Newark Museum Association incorporated, 1800; influence of	148
Manual Breadth Life Insurance Co. 1800, 1801, 1802, 1803, 1804, 1805; new building	1800	Newark Orphan Asylum incorporated	1804
National Newark Banking Co., site of building	181	Newark Technical School established	1800
Negroes, free and slaves	91, 2		
New Brunswick, intervention at	31		
New Haven, Conn., house of early settlers	19		
New Jersey, surrender to English, 1701; returns to English	110		
New Jersey Continental Line, second regiment to Newark	81		

- Newark Water Works, Belleville, completed . . . . . xxxi
- Normal school on site of Kearny home . . . . . 131
- North Ward . . . . . 103
- Nurses' Home, City Hospital, erected . . . . . xxxiv
- Officers chosen by town meeting . . . . . 25
- Ogden, Col. Josiah, gathers wheat on Sunday . . . . . 152
- Old Burying Ground, xix, 33, 52; bones removed, xxxii, 33; site . . . . . 168
- Orange and Newark Horse Car Co. . . . . 132
- Orange Mountains . . . . . 9
- Orange Park . . . . . xxiv
- Orange Township created, . . . . . xxxv, 75
- Oraton, Indian chief . . . . . 26
- Overhead wires, removal of . . . . . 155
- Park House, site . . . . . 168
- Park system established, xxxii; aqueduct property at Branch Brook, xxxii; development . . . . . 145
- Parks, property vested in Newark . . . . . xxiv
- Parsonage, First Church, 80; site . . . . . 168
- Passaic River described, 95, 117, 118; purification agitated, xxxiii; channel deepening, problem of future, 156; bridge at Bridge Street . . . . . 77
- Passaic Valley settlements, . . . . . 6
- Passaic Valley trunk sewer, . . . . . 145, 156
- Paterson, location . . . . . xxi
- Patriots, gathering of, illustration . . . . . 54
- Pau, Michael . . . . . 8
- Paulding, John, at "Cockloft Hall" . . . . . 120, 164
- Paulus Hook . . . . . 8
- Peddie, Thomas B., mayor . . . . . 150
- Pequannock Valley, source of present water supply . . . . . 134
- Perro, Indian . . . . . 17
- Perry, Nehemiah, mayor . . . . . 160
- Philadelphia an Indian village . . . . . 9
- Philip, King, war in Connecticut . . . . . 44, 45
- Pierson, Abraham, first president of Yale College . . . . . 48
- Pierson, Rev. Abraham, 3, 24, 48; parsonage . . . . . 80
- Pierson, Theophilus . . . . . xix
- Plank road . . . . . xx, 77
- Plank Road and Ferry Co. established . . . . . xxix
- Playgrounds, first city . . . . . xxxiii, 155
- Poland, Addison B., superintendent of schools . . . . . 147
- Poles, removal of . . . . . 155
- Police force . . . . . 104
- Police precinct, sixth, opened . . . . . xxxiv
- Poor, provision for, xix; town rate . . . . . xix
- Poor House Farm . . . . . xxiv
- Population 1673, xviii; 1682, xix; 1780, xx; 1810, xxiv; 1820, xxiv; 1826, xxv; 1810, 1826, 1830, 1833, 89; 1835, xxvi; 1836, xxvii; 1837, 1860, 110; 1864, 1865, 111; 1910, 151; by races, 152; increase, 73; growth after Civil War . . . . . 142
- Port Newark Terminal . . . . . 34, 145
- Port of entry established . . . . . xxvi
- Post Office . . . . . 75
- Presbyterian Church, *see* First Presbyterian Church, Second Presbyterian Church, Meeting House.
- Princeton, battle of . . . . . 50
- Princeton College in Newark, xx; *see also* College of New Jersey.
- Printing presses, first . . . . . 94
- Protestant Foster Home established . . . . . xxviii
- Prudential Insurance Co. organized, xxxii; buildings erected . . . . . xxxii
- Public Service Terminal . . . . . 143, 167
- Pump at Broad and Market Streets . . . . . 76
- Puritan monument, Fairmount Cemetery, 33, 165; illustration . . . . . 2
- Puritanism . . . . . 83, 85
- Puritans . . . . . 15, 22, 23
- Quarries opened, xix, 89; site . . . . . 160
- Railroad opened . . . . . xxvi, 105
- Railroads . . . . . 163
- Rankin, William, first hatter . . . . . xxiii

Raymond, Thomas L., mayor	140	Settlement, vol. 2, reasons for, 10, extension of	41
Recreation, early	xxx, 123	Settlements from Maine to the Delaware Bay	7
Revolutions War, Newark in	12-15	Settlers, wealth of, 20; in business of descendants	112
Riord, Frederick W., mayor	160	Seymour, James M., mayor	153
Roads, early	xix	Shade Tree Commission established, 1800; early idea	1300
Rising Sun Tavern, site	170	Shenotto, Indian	10
Road to New York route, laid	32	Sherrin, Gen. Phil. in Newark	90
Roads, early	43	Sherman, Gen. W. T., in Newark	1000, 95
Rosenvelt, President Theodore, in Newark	1881-19	Ship canal enterprise	152
Rutgers, Thomas R., mayor	110	Ships and shipping, 00; statistics 1845	1000
Rutherford House	133	"Shoemaker Map" of 1808	88
Sabbath observance, 00		Shoemaking established, 00; traveling robbies	7
Sunday observance		Shoes, manufacture	1810, 86, 88
Saddlery hardware manufacture	93	Simonds, Ralph W., killed	154
St. Barnabas Hospital incorporated	1800	Slave freed by Combs	87
St. Benedict's College, chartered	1800	Slaves denounced by Episcopal in Freedom	90
St. James' Hospital incorporated	1800	Slaves, 1804, 1810; 840	1000
St. John's Lodge Free Masons established	18, 170	Smoke Abatement Department established	1800
St. John's Roman Catholic church established	1819	Social life	40
St. Mary's Orphan Asylum incorporated	1803	Society for the Promotion of Useful Arts	107
St. Michael's Hospital incorporated	1800	Soldiers' and Sailors' monument to be erected	140
St. Peter's Orphan Asylum founded	1818	South Orange Township created	1000
St. Vincent's Academy founded	1800	South Ward	101
Saw Mills, 00; first	154	Southwestern trade of Newark	106, 107
Scheyjahl, Indian name for New Jersey	13	Spanish-American War, first regiment in 1800, 103	114
School system established, 00; development	146-147	Spinning and Weaving, early	77
Schools, early 1800, 00; 00, 1800, 00, 00, 114, 171, 100	150	Springfield battle of	10, 60
Schuyler house, Belleville	51, 61	Springfield Tavern (permanently)	1000
Scot, Winfield	87	Stage coaches, 70; 106; 0	
Second Presbyterian Church established	1800	Instruction	78
Second River, battle of	10-84	Stage line to New York	79
Settlement, termination of rule	1810	Stage roads between New York and Philadelphia	6
Seigniorial monument, proposed	169	Sigbee Island bought by West India Co.	8
Settlement of Freedmen established	100	Steam fire engines introduced	114
		Steam power	84, 107
		Steam bridge, 00	100
		Steak quarried	114
		Steam, early, 00, in 1800	80

- Strawberries cultivated by Seth Boyden ..... 92
- Street cars, electric, xxxii; horse ..... 132, 143
- Street lighting ..... 135, 136
- Street railway company, first ..... xxx
- Streets, xix; lines established, xxii; development, 144; widening, a problem of the future, 156; *see also* names of streets.
- Subway construction, problem of the future..... 156
- Summer schools ..... 116, 146
- Sunday Call* established... xxxi
- Sunday observance, early regulations, xxii; in old Newark ..... 83
- Swaine, Samuel, delegate to General Assembly.... xvii
- Tablet laid July 4, 1826, site 169
- Tablets, *see* names of persons.
- Talleyrand in Newark.... 95, 161
- Tanneries, early, xix, 37, 40, 86, 93; site of first 170
- Taverns ..... 76, 77
- Taxes in 1821..... xxiv
- Technical School, *see* Newark Technical School.
- Thanksgiving days, 34; hymn ..... 35
- Thompson's hotel, site.... 163
- Tichenor's gate ..... 38
- Tool making ..... 90
- Town lots ..... 41
- Town meetings, 24, 25, 101; called by drum beat.... 30
- Town pump, site..... 170
- Trade school ..... 169
- Trade with the South.... 126, 127
- Trades Assembly organized 142
- Traffic congestion problem. 156
- Training place, Military Park, 52; site..... 170
- Transportation ..... 143-145
- Travel, methods of, 42; Sunday ..... 83
- Treadmills used ..... 94
- Treat, John ..... xix
- Treat, Robert, 3; in Elizabethtown, 9; returns to Connecticut, 15; on the Hackensack, 16; governs town, 24; first captain, 25; delegate to General Assembly, xvii; returns to Connecticut, 43; in Connecticut Indian wars, 44; 45; governor, 46; "Charter Oak," 46, 47; Selecting town site, illustration 14
- Treat, Robert, daughter of. 38
- Trees found by settlers, 21; early ordinance ..... 38
- Trenton founded, 9; battle of ..... 59
- Trinity Episcopal Church established, xx, 52, 75; hospital in Revolution, 67; illustration, 60; location ..... 170
- Trolley cars ..... 143
- Trunk making ..... 93
- Trunk sewer, Passaic Valley ..... 145
- Two hundred fiftieth anniversary Committee .xxxiv, 155
- University planned ..... 148
- Vailsburg annexed ..... xxxvi
- Van Berckel, Peter, in Newark ..... 96
- Van Horn, Amos H., estate, gift of Lincoln Monument, xxxiv, 149; Washington Monument....xxxiv, 149
- War of 1812 draft..... xxiv
- War of the Rebellion, *see* Civil War.
- War of the Revolution, *see* Revolutionary War.
- Ward, John, appointed to provide ammunition ... 53
- Ward, Governor Marcus L. 130
- Wards, division of the city into, xxvii, 101; four wards created, 103; fifth, xxviii; sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, xxix; twelfth, thirteenth, xxx; fourteenth, fifteenth, xxxi; reduced to nine, xxxii; increased again to fifteen, xxxii; to sixteen..... xxxiii
- Washington, General, in Newark, xx, 56-59, 163, 171; flight through the Jerseys ..... 56
- Washington Monument, gift of Amos H. Van Horn ..... xxxiv, 149
- Washington Park, xix; early market place.... 40, 167
- Washington Street, west boundary, 75; known as West Back Street..... 81

Watch kept by night . . . . .	500	West ward . . . . .	141
Watching Mountains . . . . .	19	Westminster, treaty of . . . . .	650
Water company, first . . . . .	520	Wetton, Edward, municipal survey of electric in- stallation . . . . .	428
Water power, use of . . . . .	84	Whaling Company incorpo- rated . . . . .	543
Water supply, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, contract with Aqueduct Co., 1870; buildings con- structed with in 1875, 1876, part furnished by Mexico Canal Co., 1884; pumping plant purchased, 1880	5000	Whaling Ships . . . . .	500, 51
Watering place, 33, 43, 50	171	Winnemong, Indian . . . . .	54
Waterwheel, enlargement, problems of the future . . . . .	140	Women's Christian Associa- tion organized . . . . .	1003
Waterways, first . . . . .	10	Woodland Cemetery incor- porated . . . . .	503
Wauquois, Indian name of Round Cook . . . . .	161	Woodside annexed, 1876; divided . . . . .	1014, 4
Wausauk Park, site of Devil's Hill . . . . .	164	Yates, Henry I., survey . . . . .	150
Wells, old . . . . .	114	Yellow Leaf in New York City . . . . .	540
West Back Street . . . . .	17	Young, Robert . . . . .	518
		Young Men's Christian As- sociation organized . . . . .	504, 1









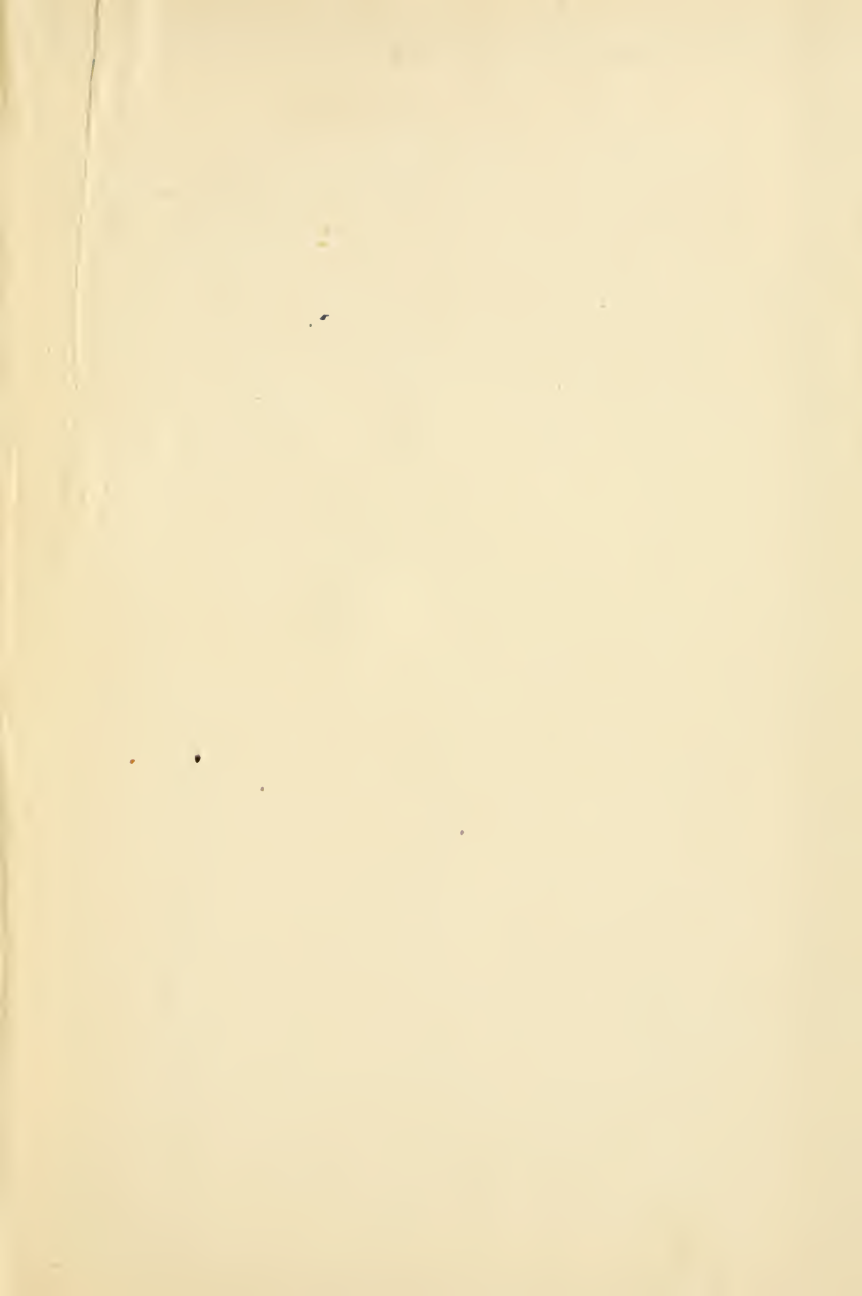




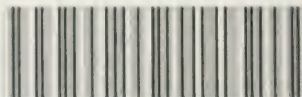








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